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CURRENT SOVIET DISARMAMENT EFFORTS THWARTED BY U.S., PRC

LD160747Y Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 11 Mar 78 p 3 LD

[International review by commentator Aleksandr Kalyadin: "To Curb the Arms Race"]

[Text] The CPSU and our state are persistently and purposefully performing much work in the world arena in implementing the program of continuing the struggle for peace and international cooperation and for the freedom and independence of the people which was adopted by the 25th CPSU Congress. One of the most important salients of this activity is the struggle to end the arms race launched by the imperialist powers and for disarmament.

The materials of the 25th CPSU Congress, the speeches of L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the proposals submitted by our country to the United Nations put forward a broad and comprehensive program of measures for strengthening international detente, ending the arms race and for disarmament, the implementation of which would remove the threat of nuclear war and would create the basis of stable peace and security for all people.

The CPSU's tremendous efforts in the world arena, aimed at solving these most urgent problems, are yielding tangible and specific results. With the most active participation of the USSR and the other socialist countries and with the support of all peace-loving and realistically minded forces certain channels of the arms race have been successfully closed in recent years.

However, despite the good changes for progress, there are no grounds for complacency. Influential imperialist circles are doing everything to retard the positive processes and are actively opposing the course toward the relaxation of international tension, especially in the military sphere. The arms buildup is assuming increasingly dangerous forms. The military spending of the NATO countries, which was $150 billion in 1975, exceeded $165 billion in 1977. A 3-percent annual increase in military spending has been programed by the members of this military bloc before the end of the decade.

The U.S. plans for the production of neutron weapons and their deployment on the territory of the West European NATO countries have been a dangerous new manifestation of the arms race. From the Western press it is known that research and development on other even more barbaric means of warfare is underway in the laboratories of the Pentagon and of the military departments of a number of other NATO countries. These actions and plans threaten to raise the arms race to an even higher and more dangerous level.

The proposals put forward by L.I. Brezhnev in the year of the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution were convincing evidence of the course toward detente and disarmament which the Soviet Union is actively pursuing. Our country has proposed that a radical step be taken: that agreement be reached on the simultaneous cessation by all states of the production of any nuclear weapons--be they atomic, hydrogen or neutron bombs or warheads. The nuclear powers could also begin a gradual reduction of existing stockpiles of nuclear weapons, progressing to the complete, "100-percent" elimination of these stockpiles. A new Soviet proposal to Western powers about reaching an immediate agreement on a mutual renunciation of neutron bomb production, thus saving the world from the emergency of an even more inhuman weapon of mass destruction, is closely linked with this initiative aimed at eliminating the chief danger--nuclear war.

A most important measure for reducing the threat of nuclear war is the further limitation of strategic offensive arms. The Soviet Union continues to pursue a consistent line toward a successful conclusion of the talks being conducted with the United States on the limitation and reduction of offensive strategic arms and toward signing a new agreement on this question.

The complete ending of nuclear weapons tests, which are a method of qualitatively improving nuclear weapons and of creating new models and types of these weapons, has a direct bearing on the task of reducing the threat of nuclear war.

Seeking to promote the solution of this problem, on 2 November L.I. Brezhnev declared the readiness of the Soviet Union to declare a moratorium on nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes in addition to a prohibition of all nuclear weapons tests for a definite period. At the Geneva talks between the USSR, the United States and Great Britain, the Soviet delegation is striving for a treaty on a total nuclear weapons test ban not merely in the atmosphere, in space and underwater (as is already prohibited by the 1963 Moscow treaty) but underground also.

However, the attainment of this goal is being complicated by those who are refusing to participate in the efforts aimed at an all-embracing prohibition of nuclear tests, especially the PRC, which is ignoring the agreements already reached and opposing the will of the majority of states.

Another important aspect of the nuclear disarmament problem is the inadmissibility of the further proliferation of nuclear weapons. The danger of nuclear war would increase immesurably if countries with active militarist, expansionist and other reactionary forces were to be drawn into the process of manufacturing and stockpiling nuclear weapons. The USSR advocates the strengthening of the existing Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty which more than 100 states have signed and its universal application, and it advocates effective control measures against the use of fissionable material for the spread of nuclear weapons.

Chemical weapons are an extraordinarily dangerous form of mass-destruction. Suffice it to note that a lethal dose of modern toxic substances is measured in just a few milligrams. The Soviet Union advocates the immediate conclusion of an international convention banning the development, production and stockpiling of chemical weapons and for their destruction.

In seeking to open the way toward curtailing the arms race the Soviet Union proposed, in the United Nations, a 10-percent reduction in the military budgets of the great powers which are permanent members of the UN Security Council. However, at the moment there has been no success in implementing this proposal because of opposition from, above all, the PRC and the United States.

The Soviet Government continues its efforts to insure that the present constant growth in military spending by many states may be replaced by its systematic reduction.

The USSR is making great efforts to speed up the progress of the Vienna talks between 19 countries on the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe.

Achieving cardinal improvements in the solution of the disarmament problem requires the examination of this problem at the broadest and most authoritative forum possible. A world disarmament conference is intended to be such a forum. Back in 1971 the UN General Assembly voiced its support for the USSR's proposal for such a conference. However, it has not yet proved possible to move this question into the practical level because of the negative position of the PRC and the United States.

The special disarmament session of the UN General Assembly scheduled for May and June this year is designed to play a special part in preparing for a world disarmament conference.

While maintaining their vigilance toward the intrigues of the forces of war, reaction and aggression the USSR and the other countries of the socialist community are firmly and consistently pursuing a course toward the deepening and consolidation of international detente and are striving to halt the process of increasing arms buildups which is engulfing the world and to achieve jointly with other countries and with all peace-loving forces in reduction in the level of military confrontation and practical successes in disarmament.

USSR'S PROPOSAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONVENTION HAILED

LD151854Y Moscow TASS in English 1840 GMT 15 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 15, TASS--TASS political commentator Igor Orlov writes: The Soviet Union has begun the ratification process of a very important international convention, which opens a new direction in the sphere of disarmament. The USSR Council of Ministers approved and submitted for ratification to the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet the convention on banning the modification of the natural environment for military or any other hostile purposes, signed in Geneva on May 18, last year. The importance of the new convention can hardly be overestimated, particularly if one takes into account that, with the present rapid development of the scientific and technical revolution possibilities for modifying certain natural processes and the globe's climate considerably expand. One can imagine that catastrophic consequences would follow the utilization of such possibilities for military or other hostile purposes.

The initiative in setting up obstacles along this path was taken by the Soviet Union, which proposed the draft convention already back in 1974. Negotiations on the matter in which, along with diplomats, specialists in the fields of meteorology and geophysics took part, were conducted both on a bilateral (between the Soviet Union and the USA), and a multilateral plane--in the disarmament committee at Geneva. They made it possible to elaborate a document that took into account the views and proposals of a great number of countries. The convention is, therefore, the fruit of collective endeavour.

It should be noted that the new convention will not obstruct the utilization of modifying the environment for peaceful purposes. Moreover, parties to the convention take the commitment to promote the fullest exchange of scientific and technical information in this field. Let us note that since the convention was opened for signature last May, more than 40 countries have already joined it. It remains now for the document to be ratified. The importance of measures for the convention to come into force as soon as possible is obvious. As next May the U.N. General Assembly will convene for a special disarmament session, it would be reasonable to carry out such work before its opening. The coming into force of the convention on banning the modification of the environment for military or other hostile purposes will provide a fresh stimulus for further efforts towards curbing the arms race, towards implementing new concrete measures in the sphere of disarmament.

POSITIVE, NEGATIVE ASPECTS OF BELGRADE PARLEY SUMMARIZED

LD150859Y Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 11 Mar 78 p 3 LD

[Yu. Kashlev article: "Belgrade--Summing Up the Results"]

[Text] In the Sava Palace the chairman's gavel announced the end of the Belgrade meeting of the representatives of the 35 states which participated in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

This meeting lasted for the better part of 5 months, not counting the preparatory stage, drawing the attention of political circles, the media and the public of many countries. Now that the diplomatic marathon is over it is natural to ask the question: What are its results?

From the very beginning the Soviet Union defended the course of a constructive Belgrade meeting in order, as Comrade L.I. Brezhnev appealed in one of his speeches, to "conduct it as an act of cooperation and not of dissension. People who try to orient it in another direction would be taking on a great responsibility."

The delegations of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries spoke in Belgrade of their diverse activity to implement the accords of the final act and submitted important proposals for strengthening security, including proposals on the renunciation of the first use of nuclear weapons, the nonexpansion of the blocs existing in Europe, on freezing military budgets, on supporting a special UN General Assembly session on disarmament, and so forth. It was the socialist countries that took the initiative and submitted concrete trade, economic and cultural draft proposals particularly on holding an all-European conference on cooperation in the field of transportation, energy and the environment; proclaiming an all-European year of cultural cooperation; holding festivals of people's creativity, art exhibitions, youth meetings and so on.

Thanks to the consistent position of the socialist countries it was precisely these questions concerning millions of people which were placed at the center of attention of the Belgrade meeting, and this predetermined the value of the discussion which took place there--the first since Helsinki.

Unfortunately the majority of the socialist countries' topical initiatives listed here were not reflected in the concluding document of the Belgrade meeting. Why?

The delegation from the United States and a number of its NATO allies set themselves quite different tasks in Belgrade: to organize a propaganda "tribunal" on the socialist countries and to revise the meaning of the final act after transforming it into a screen to interfere in the affairs of others. All the hot air in the head of the American delegation, Goldberg, like an old-fashioned steamer, was let out in a propagandist whistle of lamentations about the "infringement of human rights" in the socialist countries.

At the same time neither the American nor the other NATO delegations in essence submitted one single proposal concerning the problems of disarmament and cooperation in Europe, which was the main theme of the Belgrade meeting.

The socialist country delegations were forced to give a decisive rebuff to these propaganda sallies and to cite facts about the mass infringements of democracy in the United States. It is indicative that many letters were sent to the Belgrade meeting by American citizens who have been persecuted, including Ben Chavis, the leader of the Wilmington 10 unlawfully sentenced to over 200 years imprisonment.

At the last stage of the work--the drafting stage--the American and several other NATO delegations, having put forward "ultimatums" in the spirit of their position, actually blocked the chance of adopting a more meaningful and concrete concluding document although such a document was submitted by both the Soviet Union and the neutral countries.

In his final speech after the adoption of the concluding document USSR delegation head Yu. M. Vorontsov noted that throughout the entire Belgrade meeting certain delegations had directed their efforts toward diverting it into a psychological warfare channel, transforming it into a field of ideological clashes and distracting the attention of the delegates away from serious discussion of burning European security problems. The Soviet Union notes with satisfaction that at the Belgrade meeting the final act was defended against all attempts to revise it and change its content and meaning.

Despite the drawbacks indicated, the world press, animatedly commenting on the end of the Belgrade meeting in the last few days, considers its overall balance to be favorable. On what is this assessment based?

The concluding document adopted stresses the significance of the process of detente, confirms the historical role of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and expresses the readiness of participating countries to continue to implement the provisions of the final act. The exchange of opinions which took place is also acknowledged to have been useful, although, naturally, general agreement was not reached on all the questions discussed.

The fixing of all these provisions in the first collective document of the representatives of the 35 states since the Helsinki conference is, of course, of considerable positive significance.

The concluding document also sketches a series of concrete measures in the continuation of the multifaceted process begun in Helsinki. Thus, in 1978 a conference of experts will meet in the FRG to prepare for the all-European science forum envisaged by the final act. In 1979 experts from the 35 countries will meet in Switzerland to elaborate a generally acceptable method for the peaceful settlement of disputes between states. It is planned to convene a conference on cooperation in the Mediterranean region. An important resolution on the holding of the next meeting of the Belgrade type in Madrid in June 1980 was also adopted.

All these are useful, constructive steps precisely in the direction advocated from the very start of the Belgrade meeting by socialist countries' delegations. The positive--in the last analysis--balance of the Belgrade meeting obviously does not suit the country which exerted efforts above all with the aim of wrecking its constructive work--the United States. The other day the White House published a statement which again simply ignores the problems of security and cooperation in Europe and gives the impression that the talks in the Yugoslav capital concerned only "human rights" again. The blame for the fact that it was not possible to adopt a concluding document in Belgrade corresponding to the administration's demagogic concept of this question is laid at the Soviet Union's door.

No, it was not possible. Nor will it be possible at any future forum of the 35 states. One of the achievements of the Belgrade meeting consists precisely in the fact that it did not support but rejected attempts to adapt the Helsinki final act to Washington's tastes. The White House statement can only be regarded as spitting at a departing train.

The Belgrade meeting is over. It again showed the peoples just who is defending their basic interests--peace, cooperation and mutual understanding--and who is trying to prevent these goals being achieved; it reaffirmed that detente is the main trend in modern international relations and that there is no alternative to it.

The results of the Belgrade meeting are yet more evidence that the Helsinki accords represent a realistic program for insuring a peaceful future for Europe. Their practical implementation will depend to a great extent on the level of detente and on what political course states will follow in the future.

U.S. BEHAVIOR AT BELGRADE CSCE CRITICIZED

LD121637Y Moscow TASS in English 1616 GMT Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 12, TASS--The Belgrade meeting has demonstrated the resolve of the European peoples to keep to the road on which they embarked in Helsinki, where they put the beginning to a new stage of the detente, asserting the principles of peaceful coexistence of states with different social systems in international life, writes PRAVDA.

The USSR and other socialist countries made a major contribution to the positive result of the meeting, the paper points out. This result was also facilitated by the constructive approach of neutral and a number of capitalist states. However, this cannot be said of a different position manifested in Belgrade. Numerous propagandist diversions and other unseemly manoeuvres distinguished the behavior of the delegations of the United States and some of their NATO partners. They plainly tried to distract the meeting off its main road, to turn it into an arena of confrontation. These attempts failed. The principles of peaceful coexistence, reflected in the Helsinki accords, once again demonstrated their strength and viability. This meets with the warm approval of all those who strive for strengthening peace.

At the same time voices can be heard in the West of those who dislike the results of the meeting, who deplore their inability to change its character and objectives, PRAVDA notes. Such, precisely, is the main tone of an interview given the American press by A. Goldberg who led the U.S. delegation. Nor is the English GUARDIAN pleased with the results of the Belgrade meeting. It grumbles about the "inability" to take measures "for improving" the realisation of the Helsinki accords. Actually, however, THE GUARDIAN, just as Goldberg, are worried by other things. They are annoyed by the failure of the plans of Western imperialist quarters, which claim the right to interfere in the internal affairs of other states, which would signify nothing but the trampling on the principles of Helsinki.

At Belgrade the will of the peoples for detente, for stronger peace and reciprocally advantageous cooperation prevailed once again.

STUDIO NINE PROGRAM DISCUSSES DISARMAMENT, MIDEAST, HORN

LD1413147 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1135 GMT 5 Mar 78 LD

[Studio Nine Program with moderator Valentin Zorin; Yevgeniy Maksimovich Primakov, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences and recently appointed chief of the Orientology Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences; and Aleksandr Yevgeniyevich Bovin, IZVESTIYA political observer]

[Text] [Zorin] A large amount of mail received by Studio Nine, particularly in recent days, consists of your letters devoted to problems of disarmament, limitation of the arms race, issues connected to talks between the United States and the Soviet Union on the agreement to limit strategic attack weapons, questions of the neutron bomb and other issues connected to this problem. The following are a few of those who ask us to discuss these questions: lathe operator Comrade (Panasenkov) from Ussuriysk; veteran of the Great Patriotic War Ivan Alekseyevich (Yermakov) from Pavlov city in Gorkiy Oblast; and many other viewers. Grigoriy Semenov (Shulpekov) from Novocherkassk writes: In recent years numerous facts prove that it is impossible to achieve a stable peace through political talks and diplomatic maneuvers. Gavril Ilich (Lisin), veteran of the Civil and Patriotic Wars, who lives in Maykop, writes that talks with the United States have continued for a long time already with results. I think that the anxiety of Soviet people caused by difficulties connected with the talks on ending the arms race and the maneuvers of the opponents of detente is understandable. However, I cannot agree completely with Comrade (Lisin) or Comrade (Shulpekov). I understand the reasons for their anxiety but would like to emphasize that the statement that the talks cannot produce peace is hardly valid. I also think that the opinion that all agreements and all the talks which took place did not produce obvious results is not valid either. It is a fact that detente has occurred, and it exercises the most important influence on the entire course of international events. The talks and agreements which were concluded between our countries in recent years are a reality and also have great influence on the entire course of international events. And finally the most important fact: For more than 30 years the people of our country have lived in peace, which has not happened so frequently in the history of our motherland. Naturally the importance of this must not be underestimated. The work of our party and the line pursued by the Central Committee headed by Comrade Brezhnev produces the most obvious results, and the people of the entire world and our own people enjoy the fruits of this great work which has been performed in recent years.

At the same time the fact that each step toward limiting weapons is more difficult and each step meets greater resistance from enemies of peace causes doubts. Last month I visited the United States and personally saw the dangerous activity of some circles and influential figures in Washington aimed at poisoning the atmosphere and delaying the process of detente and the reaching of agreements on important treaties between our countries. When one hears such statements, reads them in newspapers and hears them in speeches, one unwillingly thinks that the political level of some Western figures is below the demands of the contemporary era.

In this connection I would like to tell you about one very instructive interview, I think, which the genius Albert Einstein, one of the greatest physicists of modern times granted shortly before his death. This interview was the last in his life. Einstein was asked a curious question.

He was asked to explain such an obvious disparity and discrepancy as the fact that the human brain at the present stage of its development has been able to penetrate the greatest secrets of nature--such as the secret of the atom, and put atomic energy to work--and on the other hand mankind seems to be unable to protect itself against the destructive consequences of its own knowledge. Einstein answered this question as follows: In my view the case is that physics is a simpler science than politics. I would like you to note that this was said by a scientist whose theory of relativity has not been completely understood even by most specialists. I think there is a foundation under this deep thought of Einstein. We must also take into consideration that a physicist's mistake is a deplorable thing, but it can be corrected in time by himself or one of his colleagues. But a mistake made by a politician, who has great authority and commands enormous forces, could be irreparable in our century. Under these conditions such a gap between the possibilities of modern mankind and the lag in political thinking among some Western figures, is very dangerous. The scientific and technical revolution, which has produced a real change in the modern world, demands a quite different level of political thought. This is being demonstrated by our party and the Central Committee, which believes it is most important to follow a line of insuring peace and the prevention of destructive modern nuclear wars.

However, by all accounts some bourgeois politicians have not given up the doctrines of the past, and they think in obviously obsolete terms.

I think that the anxiety of many of our viewers who write about the slowdown in the Soviet-American SALT talks is quite justifiable. I would like to ask you, Aleksandr Yevgeniyevich, to give us your opinions on the reasons for such negative processes.

Cruise Missile

[Bovin] Well, I agree that in this case the question is more complicated than physics. But if one speaks in general terms everybody knows that the basic principle behind these talks is the principle of equality and equal security. It is the only possible and realistic basis for some agreements. It is when this principle is being violated that the talks get into trouble. This is what has happened in this case.

For example, when some more or less realistic outlines of a possible agreement became apparent last fall, certain political circles in the United States drew back at once. Naturally, they could not admit that what disturbed them most was the fact that the agreement recognized the parity, the nuclear equality, of the Soviet Union and the United States. They naturally gave different reasons. They said that this agreement made it possible for the Soviet Union to launch a preemptive strike. This is, of course, external logic and the internal logic is quite different. This involved various attempts to obtain some unilateral military advantages. It was particularly characteristic of the talks on the cruise missile our viewers are asking about. A few words about this missile itself. The cruise missile is a pilotless aircraft which may have either a conventional or a nuclear warhead and an automatic aiming device. The Americans began producing the first generation of these cruise missiles in the fifties. But they were unwieldy structures of the same type as the Snark missiles or the Regulus-I on submarines. They had very low tactical and technical capabilities and were removed from the weapons arsenal in the sixties. There is now a new generation of cruise missiles which is basically different.

What is the difference? Primarily, it is the size, weight and dimensions. For example, the Snark weighed 25 tons and the modern cruise missile weighs 1 to 1.5 tons, or even less than 1 ton according to U.S. data. Naturally their sizes were reduced accordingly. The second basic difference is a very precise guidance system. When a missile is in flight deflections from the planned route gradually accumulate and can amount to thousands of meters. To prevent this, a correcting device has been installed. It is technically very advanced; it has an computer which is programed for the entire route. It is given very precise data, which is not difficult because stereophotographic pictures of the earth surface are taken from satellites. Both sides have enough information on possible routes. This data is stored in the computer's memory. During the flight a very sensitive radiolocator altimeter operates constantly. It takes measurements and stores them in the computer which compares them with the ones in its memory bank. If it sees any deflection, it gives course correction commands. Precision is generally achieved through this process.

These missiles can fly at very low altitude. Cruise missiles were very carefully analyzed at the talks. Their purpose is to break through enemy antiaircraft defenses. Well, all this is technology, let us return to politics. It seems the Americans like to play cards very much because they frequently use card terminology in political thinking. In particular, they say that they always want to have trumps during talks with us. The cruise missile is a trump card from their point of view. The New York TIMES has written that in 1972 when the provisional agreement had just been signed in Moscow--it was the first one in May--Kissinger had already given the Pentagon to develop long-range cruise missiles. It is considered an additional trump card at the SALT-II talks.

Even now this subject is stressed in the American press. Quite recently the Republican Party published an official statement criticizing Carter's defense policy, particularly the fact that Carter has partially reduced some military programs or slowed them down slightly. For example, this statement contains the following sentence: "The Carter government's reduction of defense programs, even if they are very minor, deprives us of trump cards in SALT talks."

[Zorin] Aleksandr Yevgeniyevich, the reduction of military programs in general is seen from the point of view of Washington's hawks.

[Bovin] The statement was written from this point of view. There is talk of the B-1...

[Zorin] If we speak in general of the course taken by the present administration, then there is no reason to talk of reductions.

[Bovin] I do not know about cards, but in politics these trump cards do not always help those who want to have them in their hands. This is what happened with these cruise missiles. They not only failed to give America any political advantages, but naturally complicated all the talks because they are strategic weapons. They are strategically dangerous weapons, and naturally the Soviet Union demands that these strategic cruise missiles should be included in the ceilings established in 1974 in Vladivostok. It is a quite natural demand. How did the Americans behave with their trump cards in this case?

They categorically refused to do this at first, saying that control is impossible in this case. Naturally there are more difficulties in this case than, say, control over ballistic missiles based on the surface. I mean the classic missiles. But the difficulty of the task is no reason to refuse outright to solve it. Then after some time the Americans took one step back and said: We agree to limit the deployment of cruise missiles in exchange for a limitation of deployment of the Backfire bomber. The Americans themselves understand very well that the Backfire is not a strategic bomber, that it has quite different targets.

However, sometimes logic fails and they say: If it is refuelled in the air it can reach the United States. Alright, if we take this point of view, we know cases when American fighter bombers were refuelled over the Atlantic and crossed to Western Europe. But this is not a reason to demand that all of them be included in the agreements. The Americans surveyed this position a bit more and then, as you know, Vance came to Moscow in March. His narrow position--if you remember, he had a wide and a narrow position--his narrow position was: We do not agree on the Backfire and the cruise missile. Let us sign the agreement and again leave out the question of cruise missiles and the Backfire. Well, we could not agree on that either because Backfire had no relation to this and by signing an agreement on the limitation on one type of strategic weapons, the Americans left their hands absolutely free on the use of another type of the same weapons. Naturally, Moscow could not agree to this in any way, and Vance was informed of this very clearly.

After that reason and commonsense slowly, slowly won the upper hand and some kind of compromise became apparent. By autumn it was outlined in this way. It was agreed to enter the following clause in the 3-year protocol: that for these 3 years no surface and sea cruise missiles with a range of more than 600 kilometers are to be tested or deployed. This is the clause. Then agreement was reached on the following: Each strategic bomber--this means the B-52 at present, which is equipped with air-to-surface cruise missiles--each of these bombers should be counted as a ballistic missile with a MIRVed warhead. Under this arrangement, this bomber fits the special Vladivostok level of 1,320 such carriers for each side.

This was agreed and considered by all, us and the Americans, as an acceptable compromise. However, this is why the trouble you mentioned began. Suddenly the Americans began saying to us that they wanted to place these cruise missiles not only in these strategic bombers but in any military jet aircraft and even in transports. Well, no agreement could be reached on this since any aircraft could then be made the carrier of a strategic attack weapon and the entire agreement is negated.

Then they said: Alright, we agree to freeze for 3 years the testing of surface and sea missiles. But after 3 years we will work on increasing their range and positioning them outside the territory of the United States. Once more, comrades, consider the sense of a 3-year protocol. Sign such a 3-year moratorium, and during the 3 years the sides should find a more sensible, a more long-term agreement on this type of cruise missile. The Americans, on the contrary, want to consider this period as a time to prepare for further steps in the development of this weapon. The positioning of this weapon beyond the territory of the United States is particularly unacceptable for the Soviet Union.

In general, as was to be expected, no real political advantages were achieved by the Americans with this cruise missile trump card. They only complicated the talks on this section. This is one of the reasons for the delays. This position is not reasonable. This is the Americans' position on the cruise missiles.

Arms Race Origins

[Zorin] Aleksandr Yevgeniyevich, in connection with what you have said, I would like to remind our viewers of the experience of the last decades, the entire postwar period. During most of this period, Washington's policy was directed to a considerable extent at obtaining military advantages over the Soviet Union. There were various attempts--atomic weapons, (?Seabass)--but the policy formulated by Dulles, the former secretary of state, which he called policy from a position of strength, was directed at finding some way to outstrip the Soviet Union, to achieve military advantages, and talk with us from this position.

[Primakov] This is where the arms race began, after all. They invented some things...

[Bovin] Without any doubt, without any doubt.

[Primakov] And we had to invent something.

[Bogin] However, experience has shown that despite the fact that not tens but hundreds of billions of dollars were spent on their efforts, the United States did not succeed in achieving any advantages over the Soviet Union. It became obvious that this attempt has no psopects because the Soviet Union has sufficient advanced technology and advanced science. We have a powerful industry, and because of this the Soviet Union will never allow someone to have military advantages which threaten our security. With time it seems that the more sober politicians begin to play a larger part in determining Washington's political course. They...

[Primakov] Political sobriety seems to take a much longer time than in an ordinary drunk tank.

[Zorin] Yes, the process was long, very long. However, sometime during the end of the sixties, at the beginning of the seventies, some influential circles in the United States concluded that such an endless and expensive race does not give any advantages and that it is necessary to proceed from the principle which we mentioned--the principle of equality, the principle of equal security of both sides, which has made possible the talks we are discussing. There is an impression now that any moment in Washington there may be a relapse into old ways and that the Pentagon straegists may at any moment return to the thought of finding a magic wand, which will give them an advantage and disturb the balance in favor of the United States. You spoke about such a magic wand which is very much in the Pentagon dreams now--the neutron bomb. I would like you to discuss this now.

Neutron Bomb

[Bovin] The situation is really odd in this instance. On one side the Americans seem to have sobered up and are ready for an agreement. But at the same time, while discussing the limitation of one weapons system, they are busy with other weapons systems, they are developing them and putting them into operation.

What is a new weapons system? It means new difficulties, new reasons for endless debates and new problems which must be solved because all this weakens the agreements already reached. In this connection the neutron bomb is significant. It is connected to a wider problem--whether or not to continue the arms race. The Americans themselves are trying to avoid the negative psychological effect of the idea of a "neutron bomb". They use a more refined expression, a rather long one: They say it is a warhead with enhanced radiation, limited head and explosive effect. Yes, the heat and explosive effect is limited. For example, during the explosion of such a bomb or missile, the destruction by fire or explosion is about 400 to 600 meters, according to U.S. data. This is not very reassuring.

However, why is it a neutron bomb? Because, during the explosion, it generates a flow of neutrons with enormous kinetic energy. They pass easily through stone or brick, they hit any living organisims and finally destroy the molecular bonds in the cells of this organism. And so man is destroyed. It is true that Americans also prefer another expression in this case. The Atomic Energy Commission's report says that the organisim almost immediately loses the ability for further existence. It does not sound good to say that it kills, it just loses the ability for further existence.

The most extraordinary thing is that they are trying to persuade us that it is a humane weapon, that it is a so-called "clean" weapon. It is true that the houses and the tanks and the weapons are spared, but man has suddenly lost his ability for further existence. They therefore call this humanism. It is completely perverted logic. It is an antihuman logic, and it makes you think that such logic could have been invented only by a society which is profoundly hostile, in principle, to mankind. Against this background all the lamentations about human rights seem even more hollow.

Let us consider the military strategic side of the issues. Last year DER SPIEGEL wrote as follows, referring to some German official's statement in Brussels: The military is absolutely delighted with the idea that, with the help of neutron weapons, enemy tank columns can be destroyed, while 2 kilometers away peaceful inhabitants can sit at their tables quietly without fear. Of course, this is not scientific fantasy. It all comes from the concept of the so-called limited nuclear war. Such an abstract concept can exist on paper, but if one speaks of practical politics and attempts to forecast, then there is a greater chance that the use of tactical nuclear weapons will be only a prolog to total nuclear war. This should be the basis for consideration. The danger of neutron weapons is that they do not remove the possibility of nuclear war, as the Western supporters of these weapons write. On the contrary, they lower the nuclear threshold, making nuclear war even more possible.

So far the U.S. President has not made a decision on the development of neutron weapons. If one speaks quite concretely, then it is a question of equipping the Lance missiles with these warheads. These missiles are deployed in the FRG, and such warheads could also be made for the 203-millimeter howitzers, which are also deployed in West Germany. An interesting political game is now taking place. Washington does not want to take the responsibility, understanding that it will provoke, and is provoking a large wave of indignation. It does not want to take the responsibility for this step. Therefore, Washington says that the West Germans must show the initiative. They want to put the political responsibility on them, since the deployment must take place on FRG terrotory.

However, in Bonn they also hesitate, understanding that the European and world public will deplore this step. They say there: No, begin mass production of this weapon first, and then we will decide on its deployment on our territory. At the beginning of this week the discussion of these issues had already begun and a faction of the FDP naturally has spoken for the deployment of nuclear bombs, neutron weapons, on FRG territory. This faction of Free Democrats has taken the same position with the usual stipulations. The Social Democratic Party is now following a rather wavering line on this question. In this case it is not a question of various decisions made by various people, but one thing is clear: The final result of the deployment of neutron weapons in Europe, the final result of the use of this trump card, will not lead to the strengthening of the security of Western Europe or the United States, but on the contrary will weaken this security. The more sober Americans understand this. For example, this is what the well-known observer Charles Yost wrote in one U.S. newspaper. He says that every new weapons system--nuclear, thermonuclear, intercontinental missiles, cruise missiles, mobile missiles--does not bring new advantages but becomes more destabilizing than previous ones.

If the SALT-II agreement is not reached, and is not followed by the SALT-III agreement, the situation is bound to become worse. The alternative to the reduction of strategic arsenals is not a status quo, but an even greater escalation and an even worse destabilization. This is the situation now, just in this way [passage indistinct] proposed a more concrete agreement, an agreement not to develop neutron weapons. It is the only sensible way. Speaking at the ceremonial meeting on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Army, Dmitriy Fedorovich Ustinov said this, which reflects the position of our party and country: Do not let anyone take our love of peace for weakness. Let no one attempt to frighten us by new kinds of death-dealing weapons--cruise missiles, neutron bombs or anything like it. The economy, science and technology of our country are capable of insuring the development of any weapons which our enemies could count on. At the same time, with our great means for the development of modern military machinery, the Soviet Union has frequently stated that it has no wish to compete in the military-technical sphere. It is an extreme path. Comrade Ustinov said that our policy is a course of reducing weapons, not of making them superior. The course is for the reduction of military confrontation; this is our policy. The Soviet Union has proved this in practice. It is ready to look for compromises, it is ready to accept mutual concessions. However, everything has its limits and in this concrete case this limit is an absolute insurance of the security of the Soviet Union.

The article in PRAVDA, which you must all have read and which is devoted to the subject of these strategic talks, said this very clearly and precisely without leaving any illusions. This is what could be said about the neutron bomb.

SALT, Horn Linkage

[Primakov] Aleksandr Yevgeniyevich, you said that one of the tactical devices of American politicians is the attempt to destabilize the balance even if temporarily, and use it as a trump card in talks with us.

[Bovin] Yes, they are always trying it, even if nothing comes of it.

[Primakov] Yes, nothing comes of it. At the same time I think there is another tactical feature in the behavior of American politicians.

It has appeared recently. I mean the attempt to link, to tie into one, to couple various problems. For example, the U.S. press now writes that the success of the SALT talks actually depends on the way events develop in the Horn of Africa.

[Zorin] Yevgeniy Maksimovich, you have mentioned the Horn of Africa. But I have several letters from our viewers. In particular a worker of the Elektrosila plant, Comrade (Maslov), (Levanchuk) from Omsk, and others, ask us to mention this problem. I think that we will devote one of the coming broadcasts from Studio Nine to this problem and will dwell upon it at length. But since you have mentioned it, could you tell us even briefly about the situation and about the way they want to use it?

[Primakov] Let me end what I began to say about this linking of various problems. It is not only the press which speaks of such a linking. Recently the State Department made a statement saying that until the events in the Horn of Africa turn to the advantage of the United States, talks on the demilitarization of the Indian Ocean will not proceed. This statement was made when the talks were going well, as far as the public knew. I think that this is a very dangerous tactic--this linking of different events.

[Bovin] Practically, the task is to unlink them and to try to consider each problem concretely.

[Primakov] Of course. An additional danger arises because social changes are taking place in the world, social developments are on the way. The Soviet Union does not stand in any way for the social status quo, it is quite clear. If these social changes do not please the United States, they link this situation to the concrete issues within the framework of the talks between the Soviet Union and the United States and thus attempt to delay the solution of issues which are ripe and which are extremely important, primarily questions of disarmament, questions which are discussed during SALT.

[Zorin] Something can always be linked to it, something is always happening that Washington does not like. It can always be linked to disarmament talks to delay them.

Somali-Ethiopian Conflict

[Primakov] Of course. I would like to draw your attention to this side of the issue. And now, Valentin Sergeyevich, you asked me to say a few words about the situation in the Horn of Africa. Primarily, we must consider its nature. It is a confrontation between two countries on one side. Naturally, and the Soviet Union was against the development of this confrontation under these conditions. Unfortunately, it could not be prevented because the Somali leadership acquired a tendency to develop a policy against Ethiopia. This has led to the violation of the territorial unity of Ethiopia. The Somali forces crossed the Ethiopian border and occupied the Ogaden Province. This is a generally known fact.

Under these conditions the Soviet Union has acted from the highest principles. Sovet policy, as always, remained equal to the occasion. It was a matter of the highest principles. We stood in support of the victim of aggression, in support of a country which was attacked, in support of a country which is waging a just defensive war for its sovereignty and for its territorial unity.

[Bovin] We understood very well that it will worsen our relations with Somalia.

[Primakov] We did not want this worsening. We did everything to prevent this, but a principle is a principle. Guided by international principles, this is how we acted. And what did the United States do? It was clear that U.S. policy was cynical and quite without principles. The United States began supporting Somalia with the help of some reactionary Arab regimes and some imperialist forces in Western Europe. However, it was made to appear that the United States did not provide much support. However, U.S. weapons began arriving from Pakistan and Saudi Arabia, and this made it possible for the Somali Army to advance against Ethiopia. When the United States said it did not support Somalia in any way--American statesmen said this several times--this did not reflect reality. Consider the last deal on the delivery of aircraft to Egypt, to As-Sadat. If the question of developments in the Middle East is raised in our Studio Nine later, I will dwell on this longer.

However, now I would like to mention this problem. When arms were offered to As-Sadat, when there was a question of delivering aircraft to him--50 F-5 aircraft--then the U.S. press, as well as official representatives of the United States, senators and the U.S. representative at the United Nations, made no secret of the fact that these weapons will be given to As-Sadat mainly to wage a war in support of Somalia. It will also enable him to carry out some hostile acts against Libya.

In this connection I would like to inform our viewers of a rather interesting statement by Senator Jackson. He said that As-Sadat gave a very good reason for asking for weapons by getting away from the affairs of his country to the situation in Africa. Jackson added that during recent talks between As-Sadat and Carter at Camp David, As-Sadat promised that he would not use the weapons he may obtain against Israel. He needs them for use as a result of the supposed Soviet involvement in Ethiopia. You see how the question is described. Young, the U.S. representative at the United Nations, quite recently said that the weapons are given not for use against Israel but to involve As-Sadat in African affairs.

[Zorin] Yevgeniy Maksimovich, soon our time...

[Primakov interrupts] Excuse me, here is a last comment. When we speak now about the situation in the Horn of Africa, the Ethiopian retreat has ended; the Somali occupation of a considerable part of the Ethiopian Province of Ogaden has also passed. Now, as the press reports, an Ethiopian counterattack has developed. There are again some accusations against the Soviet Union. Why the Soviet Union? This shows the cynicism of U.S. policy and of the other forces which encouraged Somalia in this conflict and led to this situation. The Soviet Union, I would like to repeat once again, stands on the position of the highest principles without pursuing any of its state or other aims of which we are often accused. It is pursuing an international policy of high principles and of support for the progressive regime of the country which was attacked.

Middle East Situation

[Zorin] Although we affirm in our talk today that questions such as disarmament must be considered as separate, much is linked in politics. As you see, one way or another we began speaking about As-Sadat's policy and about the Near East, and, as we have many letters on this subject, it seems we must dwell on this today. Comrade (Bernatskiy) from Kaliningrad, Kirill Iosifovich (Chelidze) for Tbilisi and many others asked us about it. In this connection I would like to quote one part of a letter from Tallin from Comrade (Sinetskiy). The letter is very interesting and asks many important questions.

We may return to them in the future. It contains rather correct statements and also some arguable ones. I would like to quote one part of his letter. He writes: Israel will not retreat because the United States and its own well-equipped and trained army is behind it. The Arabs cannot achieve unity. Under these conditions As-Sadat took the initiative, and I cannot understand why there was need to immediately [illegible] his actions. During one of the Studio Nine discussions it was argued that As-Sadat is a separatist, and a general solution to the entire problem is needed. It seems that As-Sadat is not quite such a separatist or he would already have concluded an agreement. Yevgeniy Maksimovich, I would like you to comment on the subject and situation in the Near East in general and also answer Comrade (Sinetskiy).

[Primakov] I will touch upon the situation in the Near East by answering the letter. At least I will try to do it. Here one of our listeners--viewers--says that As-Sadat is not a separatist. I would not insist on this. Let us consider what As-Sadat has attempted and what he has done. His visit to Jerusalem itself was not coordinated, and his talks were not coordinated with other Arab partners in the confrontation with Israel. Thus he undertook separatist actions. Now even King Husayn, who in general never said anything against his mission, a few days ago complained in one of his interviews that As-Sadat did not consult with anyone and did not coordinate anything with anyone. However, he arrived there and began talks, and nobody charged him with carrying out these talks. However, if this was the end, it would have been possible. No, one cannot put a full stop to this. What As-Sadat has done by his separatist steps, he has done against the Arab side in the conflict. This can be said quite firmly.

His separatist character can be stressed in other ways. He acted against his partners in the confrontation with Israel. How was it demonstrated? The American press writes much, saying that As-Sadat came to the United States, that recently there was a referendum in the U.S. Congress--a selective referendum among senators and representatives--that as a result of this referendum it became clear that now 53 percent of congressmen prefer As-Sadat over Begin. On this basis a conclusion can be reached on the great response to As-Sadat and on the great advantage he won as a result of his mission, which began with his trip to Jerusalem.

Let us see how this affair took place. What they said during the referendum is one side. It sounds good, but now are the statements of this 53 percent in favor of As-Sadat implemented? They do not turn any of these statements to the advantage of the Arabs, as I see it, or to the advantage of the common Arab cause.

Primarily, As-Sadat, who himself never concealed the fact, hoped that this separate action he undertook will give him the possibility of obtaining United States and other Western arms. He in fact obtained it--50 aircraft. But 50 obsolete aircraft, aircraft which are much older than the ones the United States give to Israel. And the United States have now concluded this deal with As-Sadat along with deliveries of aircraft to Israel. In this way they deliver to him as well as Israel. Israel gets more advanced aircraft. Israel receives aircraft against which the U.S. aircraft obtained by As-Sadat will not be able to carry out military actions, not effectively, at least. I have already mentioned the purpose of the delivery of these weapons to As-Sadat.

Here is another feature: As-Sadat expected that the United States, as the result of his actions, will begin exercising serious pressure on Israel to force it to abandon its extremist position. He did not conceal this hope either. There are examples of such pressure or apparent pressure.

On 10 February, for example, U.S. Secretary of State Vance spoke at a press conference and said that the United States considers the Jewish settlements in occupied territories illegal, and added that they cannot exist. It would seem that the United States had taken up a position. At the same time neither the United States nor Egypt concealed the fact that As-Sadat had supposedly agreed with the United States on the hard attitude about the Sinai settlements. Yes, it would seem they had taken a definite position. But what happened during the several days following this statement? The Israeli Government came out with a sharp anti-American document doubting the credibility of the U.S. President. After that a representative of the U.S. State Department--2 days after the speech by Secretary of State Vance, which I mentioned--practically disavowed Secretary Vance's speech. He repeated the formula saying that settlements on occupied territories are illegal and at the same time added that the United States supported stopping the settlements. This means that he replaced the formula "they must not exist" with the formula "stop the settlements."

[Zorin] It is obvious--they must not exist means that they cannot be there, but to stop means that what is there, can stay, but no more can be established.

[Primakov] "They must not exist" would mean that they have to be eliminated. To stop settlements means to be against new settlements and for the preservation of the 90 old ones already there. This happened only after Israel put pressure on the United States to end their pressure on Israel. They often say in the United States that it is a question of who twists whose arm. As-Sadat did not succeed in changing anything in this case.

[Bovin] There was a report from Israel that the government has introduced some slight variations into its position on settlements. What is happening, Yevgeniy Maksimovich?

[Primakov] I do not think that they...

[Bovin interrupts] The minister of defense has taken a position which differs somewhat from Begin's position.

[Primakov] I have no reasons at all to think that there are serious differences now in the Israeli leadership's opinions. Or that there are obvious doves; there are none. In fact they speak unanimously for the preservation of the occupied territories and for the preservation of their settlements whatever their status. Considering some of the slight variations, I think that the variations apply to the settlements in Sinai. It is possible that in this case someone may go to meet As-Sadat a little in order to draw him to a final formulation of this separate deal.

[Bovin] That means not touching the settlements on the West Bank.

[Primakov] On the West Bank and in the Gaza region. They do not want even to talk about it as though it is Israeli territory, as though it never was occupied, as though these settlements did not get in there illegally, and so on. This question is ignored completely. The imperialist politicians and the Israeli leadership have always wanted to split the Arab world. And they are splitting it, splitting it purposefully, and As-Sadat's mission fits their system for division of the Arab world. You are quite right, Aleksandr Yevgeniyevich, the Arab world is split to a much greater degree than before. This has happened as a result of As-Sadat's trip. And, if the Arab world is divided, naturally the possibility of a general settlement is postponed. As-Sadat completely ignores the Palestinian problem.

[Bovin] I think that he wants to obtain something--or rather--that he wants to sell the Palestinians, to put it bluntly.

[Primakov] Yes, he wants something. Naturally, looking at it from an idealistic point of view, it would be more advantageous for him to get a deal in which someone else apart from him took a formal part so as to make this deal seem nonseparatist. However, he is not succeeding at the moment. Syria stands on its principles, which is quite clear from the documents published on the occasion of the arrival of Syrian President al-Asad in Moscow. Even Jordan, which vacillated to a certain extent--as the press made clear. But an interview recently with the Syrian minister of foreign affairs was published which said that Syria had an assurance from the Jordanian leadership that they will not join those talks in Cairo. Will not join. Therefore, As-Sadat is going on trying to get a hold somewhere, attempting to find shelter to hide his deal, and so forth. However, I think he is on his way to a separate deal.

[Zorin] He didn't do this [pursue a separate deal] earlier presumably because it did not depend on him at the time.

[Primakov] He is also working on other plans which will not lead to a general settlement because of his adherrence to a separate line. The other variations should be the kind which will disguise his deal by the formal participation of some other side.

[Bovin] He would like that.

[Primakov] He would like that but he is not succeeding, naturally, because he does not follow a line insuring the interests of all Arabs.

[Zorin] This is understandable. If one could imagine a scenario for his further activities, what would you imagine?

[Primakov] You said that you were in the United States recently. There is much discussion in academic circles and in political circles about the dialog between As-Sadat and Israel. I have an impression--partly as a result of talks with Joseph Sisco, president of American University, who for many years practically conducted the Near East policy of the U.S. State Department--that they would like to adopt a document of principles--especially after these trips by Atherton, deputy secretary of state, who is now travelling between Jerusalem, Amman and Cairo. They want this document, if it is coordinated with Israel, to form the basis of As-Sadat's attempts to involve another Arab country--they have Jordan in mind. As many U.S. observers believe, As-Sadat can make a trip to Saudi Arabia, whose complex position currently supports As-Sadat, and also to Jordan in order to gain support for his mission.

This is how they think he will operate. If no success is achieved in Jordan--and at present the chances are reduced, although I cannot be certain I think he would make a separate deal--even as a mere formality. Later, he could say: I sign, but only as part of the general settlement which will be achieved in the future. It would practically be a separate deal which will considerably weaken the Arab side and will take away the question from the general settlement.

Comrade Brezhnev, speaking at a reception in honor of Al-Asad, said that these separate acts undertaken by the Egyptian leader concede the Arab positions one after another. They delay the issue from general settlement.

[Zorin] Concerning the Egyptian commandos' attack on the Cypriot Airport, some international press organs write that it reflects the desperate position of As-Sadat, whose authority in the Arab world has been undermined by such desperate steps he has attempted to regain the authority lost during all those maneuvers. Is there any foundation for such an assessment?

[Primakov] It could be like that, I do not know. However, I think that it is more likely that the maneuvers show his instability and his impulsive behavior. That is my impression. What has he done in fact? He sent his military forces at a time when the question was almost solved and when the two terrorists were surrendering to the Cypriot authorities. He violated Cyprus' sovereignty and then greeted the surviving commandos as heroes. This action does not contribute to his stature and combined with the dead end he reached in Israel, it will be considered adefeat.

However, the Egyptian press tries to show a different picture. The Egyptian people are told that these landing forces have freed the hostages at the price of great human sacrifices and forces the terrorists to surrender.

[Zorin] The Arab world knows that really happened and even if As-Sadat did have such a plan, he has achieved the opposite.

Some of your letters request more details on various issues, but you must understand that during one conversation, even if it lasts more than an hour, it is difficult to consider all the problems in their various aspects. I am sure that we will discuss these problems in the furture. I must thank my colleagues for their participation our viewers for their attention. Until further meetings in Studio Nine, Thank You.

WESTERN EUROPE RESISTING U.S. INTERNAL INTERFERENCE

LD151800Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1425 GMT 15 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, 15 March, TASS--The U.S. administration is gambling on interference in the affairs of European countries, writes the weekly NOVOYE VREMYA. "Washington is extremely concerned about the situation in France and Italy. These two countries have the strongest communist parties in Western Europe. The Nixon and Ford Republican administrations spoke out sharply against allowing communists in the governments of West European states. Speaking at a conference of American ambassadors in London late in 1975, the then U.S. Secretary of State Kissinger said: communists participating in the governments of Western Europe could lead to the undermining of the military and political links within the North Atlantic alliance."

"The present administration has in essence returned to its predecessors' positions. When the issue of communist participation in governments became a practical possibility, egoistic class interests proved considerably stronger than the insignificant political realism which was shown at the beginning of the present administration's tenure."

"The American approach was also influenced by the stance of the ruling class in the West European countries," NOVOYE VREMYA continues. "The reactionary and Atlantic circles demanded that the United States show greater 'firmness'". NATO Secretary General J. Luns said that special danger would lie in admitting communists to the posts of ministers of defense, finance and foreign affairs."

"An important role is also played by Washington's partners in Western Europe, who have a powerful mechanism for influencing 'unreliable' countries. Such levers as the EEC and the Socialist International have already been used against Portugal. The United States supports and encourages that policy. Lately, Washington has been inclined to hand over its police functions to its most reliable allies, such as the FRG."

"The United States and big capital in other countries are now mounting massive efforts to stop the swing to the left in Western Europe. But the effectiveness of this policy is considerably weaker than its organizers had expected. The new international climate resulting from detente, the crisis of the policy of positions of strength and the socioeconomic difficulties limit the opportunities of influencing the chain of events in the West European countries. The forces and movements of the left have grown in size and strength. The front of fighters for democracy and peace has been intensified. The West European bourgeoisie has been forced to reckon with the realities in domestic and international life. Changes in the structure of the government majority and the composition of the governments themselves are being placed on the agenda. This conclusion is shared not only by the communists, but by other forces as well. They even include some representatives of ruling parties, as in Italy, for instance."

"The reaction of the West European public to U.S. attempts to dictate its own will is also symbolic. Indignation over this has been expressed both by communists and by representatives of other parties. The extensive protests over U.S. actions indicate that the people of the West European states wish to determine their own destiny, without external interference."

ANTI-SOVIET CAMPAIGN IN U.S. LED BY REPUBLICANS, WRITERS

LD130636Y Moscow TASS in English 0622 GMT 13 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 13, TASS--Hardly a day passes without some of the American figures, who are longing for the revival of the manners and customs of the cold war period, making a fresh speech on the alleged "Soviet threat" to the USA, Yuriy Zhukov writes in PRAVDA. He stresses that this incessant anti-Soviet campaign serves the specific aim of frightening the common American citizen and making him put up with the fact that on the days of inflation and unemployment nowadays that are already difficult for him, the taxes to finance the arms race are steadily rising.

Particularly zealous in this sordid activity are figures of the Republican Party connected with the military-industrial complex, the commentary notes. Former Defence Secretary in the Republican administration Laird has recently come out with impudent anti-Soviet fabrications in the READERS' DIGEST magazine published in millions of copies. He is echoed by leaders of the Republican majority in Senate and the House of Representatives Baker and Rhodes. "All of these statements treat one and the same subject--the mythical Soviet threat to the USA, that detente does not allegedly pay, the 'danger' of the Soviet-American agreement on the limitation of strategic arms being prepared now, on the necessity of building up the arms of the United States, etc."

Yuriy Zhukov draws attention to the fact that news analysts Evans and Novak appearing as the Pentagon's mouthpieces enthusiastically declared in the pages of the newspaper Washington POST on March 9 that the propaganda efforts of the opponents of detente begin to yield some fruit. The polling of 1,015 citizens has shown, they write, that the American electorate is displaying anti-Soviet sentiments, which is evidence of the end of the post-Vietnamese syndrome. He notes that they rejoice at the "striking fact" that 74 percent of these 1,015 citizens declare for a rise in taxes, and express readiness to appropriate up to ten billion dollars a year on new military programmes.

This means, Yuriy Zhukov writes in conclusion, that the efforts of the poisoners of public opinion have not been wasted: They have so much frightened some of the Americans that they are ready to give away their last dollars to the military-industrial complex. "Thus, these gentlemen have, contrary to their will, revealed the real underlying reasons of the noisy anti-Soviet campaign, which has been launched in the USA nowadays."

CIA DIRECTOR NOT AGAINST 'SANCTIONED' INTELLIGENCE LEAKS

LD151354Y Moscow TASS in English 1326 GMT 15 Mar 78 LD

[Text] New York, March 15 TASS--Speaking at hearings in the Select Committee on Intelligence of the U.S. Senate, CIA Director Stansfield Turner called for adopting a law that would envisage criminal punishment for persons who are to blame for the leakage of secret information to the press. Turner stressed that this, naturally, refers to cases when the leakage takes place without appropriate sanctions.

This reservation made by the head of the espionage agency of the United States has a special meaning. Quite often the U.S. press reveals to readers all kinds of "secret" reports that were acquired by newspapers "by chance". The purpose of such premeditated leaks to the press that are widely practised in Washington is to condition the public opinion, to influence political and economic decisions of the United States' allies in a way that suits the military-industrial complex.

Through the use of this mechanism, the Americans are being told, contrary to facts, that the Soviet Union's military budget is "constantly increasing" and is much greater than the military budget of the United States. "Secret" information from the Pentagon or NATO intelligence services about "menace from the East" finds its way into the press most often. These allegations have a slanderous provocative nature. Their authors from the CIA seek to distort the Soviet state's policy in the sphere of defence. War hysteria that is fanned up in this way helps the Pentagon step up the arms race that brings fabulous profits to war industry monopolies. Apparently, this is precisely what Stansfield Turner has in mind when making a reservation in the Senate's committee about sanctioned leaks.

CARLUCCI CIA APPOINTMENT CONFIRMS 'SUBVERSIVE REPUTATION'

LD151659Y Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 12 Mar 78 p 3 LD

[TASS-attributed N. Yermakov article: "Beware Their Denials!"]

[Text] Frank Carlucci is elegant and not without external gloss, as befits a diplomat; beneath his imposing dress-suit he concealed his true appearance for many years as an inveterate political saboteur and master at carrying out secret and very dirty CIA operations. Carlucci long ago secured the reputation of a subverter of governments disliked by the United States. This pseudodiplomat was involved in the assassination of Patrice Lumumba, had a hand in preparing the military coup in Brazil and organizing the "black colonels" putsch in Greece and, it is alleged, played not the least role in the bloody events in Chile.

There were also failures, it is true. This was the case in 1964, when Carlucci was expelled from Zanzibar for shady affairs "incompatible with diplomatic activities." The same thing also happened in 1975 in Portugal, where Carlucci was acting in the role of U.S. ambassador and tried to "rush through" a reactionary coup in order to "put the thoroughly presumptuous Reds in their place." The coup failed, and Carlucci was once again exposed as a CIA agent. Put in the pillory, the spy with the diplomatic passport made a furious denial: "No, I am not an agent, I do not work for the CIA. I sympathize with that organization, it is true."

Everything fell into place, however, when the "maligned" Frank Carlucci was recently appointed to the post of deputy director of...the CIA.

The Carlucci affair warns us: Do not believe American denials!

COLBY BOOK CONFIRMS CIA 'CRIMES,' COVER UP ATTEMPTS

LD141914Y Moscow TASS in English 1843 GMT 14 Mar 78 LD

[Text] New York, March 14, TASS--Ever new information is leading into the American press on the attempts of the administration to hush up the truth about the CIA crimes. One more patent proof of this is the book by the former CIA director, William Colby, entitled "Honorable Men: My Life in the CIA", which will be put out by the Simon and Schuster publishing house this May. As noted by the New York TIMES, Colby alleges in it that he was removed from his post by President Ford because he preferred not to keep mum, but to contribute to the investigation of the unlawful activities of U.S. espionage agency.

After the numerous exposures connected with CIA spying on the Americans, which triggered off a wave of indignation in the United States a House commission was set up. It was headed by the former Vice-President of the United States Nelson Rockefeller. Colby makes no bones of the fact that the commission was carefully picked and its task was to soft-pedal the scandal. Colby says that in 1975 Nelson Rockefeller suggested he should withhold information relating to the CIA from the special commission. "Billy," he quotes Rockefeller as saying, "do you really have to present all this material to us. We realize that there are secrets that your fellows need to keep..."

The book by Colby, who is trying to whitewash himself, confirms that the "honorable men" from the espionage agency he headed committed crimes for several years over, violated the rights of the Americans and the Constitution of the United States.

BILL TO REVISE U.S. CRIMINAL CODE 'REPRESSIVE'

LD112314Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1830 GMT 11 Mar 78 LD

[Text] The House Judiciary Committee is continuing its examination of the new U.S. criminal code bill. This bill, notes our commentator, is a modified version of the openly reactionary S-1 bill which American reactionaries tried to foist on the country for many years under the pretext of reforming criminal legislation. For 7 years it lay in Congress. Fearing public displeasure, the legislators dared not ratify it. Now, under the present administration, which hypocritically advocates human rights, the bill has been put in motion. Following insignificant amendments it was ratified by the Senate. Now it is being pushed strenuously through the U.S. House of Representatives.

The bill provides for various measures to strengthen the repressive apparatus and to further restrict American citizens' freedoms, which are proclaimed by the Constitution. It contains, in particular, provisions which make it possible, on various pretexts, to ban strikes, pickets and other forms of protest, to restrict freedom of speech and the press and to persecute, arrest and imprison activists of the civil rights movement and dissidents.

As the newspaper Los Angeles TIMES wrote, it gives the government all-embracing authority in suppressing dissidents and protests of any kind. For example, a group of blacks protesting against the violation of civil rights or a group of antiwar activists who gather at a meeting and demand a reduction in military spending, can be charged with sedition. The accidental and even insignificant damage to property, let us say during a strike, can be regarded as sabotage. The rights of the FBI, the CIA and the police to interfere in the legitimate political activity of Americans and their organizations are extended considerably.

The national alliance against racist and political repression has called the draft bill an attempt to perpetuate and to harden even more the system of discrimination and oppression which exists in the United States.

Speaking before the Senate's Judiciary Committee, Thomas Emerson, professor of jurisprudence at Yale University, said that the previous bill had been designed to put the American people in a straightjacket. The new one contains too many of the very same elements for it to be acceptable. Even the New York TIMES, which is not noted for its leftwing views, finds the draft bill repressive. The U.S. reactionaries are attacking the rights and freedoms of Americans.

PEKING INCITERS DISMISS RESULTS OF BELGRADE MEETING

LD151525Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Mar 78 p 5 LD

[V. Korionov article: "Inciters"]

[Text] The continuing process of relaxing international tension is profoundly abhorrent to the Peking political intriguers. Their entire arsenal of methods is used to sow the seeds of enmity and hatred among peoples. NCNA has long been one such mouthpiece in the hands of the Maoists. This agency has used the conclusion of the Belgrade meeting of representatives from 35 European countries, the United States and Canada as a pretext for the latest slander against the Soviet Union.

The Peking provocateurs do not like the fact that Europe is continuing to advance along the path of strengthening peace and security. They would like to reverse this process at any price. The very fact that those taking part in the meeting adopted the final document unanimously has prompted particular irritation in Peking.

As is well known, the document particularly notes the significance those attending the meeting attach to the process of relaxing tension and the role played in this relaxation by the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. That is why Peking is attempting to distort not only the positive results of the Belgrade meeting but also its very purpose. The Peking slanderers did not hesitate in the face of such an absurd "interpretation" of the final act to declare that the meeting had been convened... "for the needs of the Soviet Union's struggle against the United States." The fact that the socialist countries, neutral states and several Western countries were joined by a number of Mediterranean states which did not take part in the meeting in making useful contributions was also attacked.

The Peking inciters desperately wanted the countries which took part in the all-European conference in Helsinki to turn the Belgrade meeting into an arena of confrontation and reject further dialog and cooperation. But this does not depend on them. Regardless of the spleen the Peking provocateurs vent, the peoples upholding the cause of peace and international cooperation will travel their own path.

GIEREK HOLDS WARSAW MEETING WITH KKE LEADER FLORAKIS

LD152120Y Moscow TASS in English 2050 GMT 15 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Warsaw, March 15, TASS--A meeting between First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party Edward Gierek and First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Greece [KKE] Karilaos Florakis took place here. Karilaos Florakis is leading a delegation of the KKE currently visiting Poland.

During the friendly talk, the leaders of both parties informed each other of the activities of the Polish United Workers' Party and the KKE, about the social and economic development of Poland and the situation in Greece. Karilaos Florakis also spoke about the preparations of Greek Communists for the forthcoming 10th congress of the party.

During the talk, the two sides discussed a number of crucial issues of the international communist and working class movement in Europe. The further strengthening of ideological cohesion and internationalist solidarity in the spirit of the final document of the Berlin conference of the communist and workers' parties of Europe in 1976. A number of issues of deepening detente in Europe were also discussed. The two sides stressed the necessity of limiting the arms race and preventing the production of neutron weapons.

DABROWA-LED DELEGATION STUDIES CPSU ORGANIZATIONAL WORK

LD141141Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Mar 78 p 4 LD

[Unattributed report: "Exchange of Experience"]

[Text] A delegation of PZPR party workers headed by K. Dabrowa, member of the PZPR Central Committee and chief of the PZPR Central Committee Organization Section, was in the Soviet Union 1 through 10 March in accordance with an interparty relations plan between the CPSU and the PZPR.

The Polish comrades familiarized themselves with the CPSU's experience of party organizational work. They had talks at the CPSU Central Committee Party Organizational Work Section, Moscow Gorkom, Krasnoyarskiy Kraykom, Khakasskiy Obkom and the USSR People's Control Committee and visited a number of industrial and agricultural enterprises. The visitors were informed about the work being done in our country to implement the 25th CPSU Congress decisions and about the activities of party organizations in achieving the points and tasks advanced by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev in the CPSU Central Committee report in the area of party building.

On 9 March the delegation was received by K.V. Rusakov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, who had warm and friendly talks with them, in which N.A. Petrovichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Party Organizational Work Section participated.

VISIT OF PLO MEMBER QADDUMI TO HUNGARY REPORTED

LD160814Y Moscow TASS in English 0735 GMT 16 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Budapest, March 15, TASS--A delegation of the Palestine Liberation Organization, led by Faruq Qaddumi, member of the Executive Committee and head of the PLO Political Department, stayed in Hungary from March 10 to 15 at the invitation of the All-Hungarian Council of the People's Fatherland Front.

During this visit F. Qaddumi was received by Istvan Sarlos, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party, general secterary of the All-Hungarian Council of the People's Fatherland Front, Andras Gyenes, secretary of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party and Frigyes Puja, minister of foreign affairs.

During the meetings, which were held in the spirit of friendship and solidarity, the two sides pointed out that as a result of the policy of Israel and of the imperialist and reactionary Arab circles which cooperate with them, the situation in the Middle East has become more complicated, tension is increasing and so is the danger of an outbreak of a new military conflict. The two sides expressed themselves in favour or an earliest possible settlement of the Middle East crisis by political means with the participation of all sides concerned, including the Palestine Liberation Organization. The two sides confirmed again that the main condition for a just and lasting settlement in the Middle East is total withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the occupied Arab territories, and ensurance of the right of the Arab people of Palestine to selfdetermination, including their right to establish an independent Palestinian state. They also stressed the importance of further strengthening the unity of the anti-imperialist progressive Arab forces and highly appreciated the results reached at the conferences of the leaders of a number of Arab countries in Tripoli and Algiers. The two sides stressed the need for cooperation by the progressive Arab forces and states with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. It was noted with satisfaction during the talks that friendly relations between the Hungarian people and the Arab people of Palestine have received further development. The Hungarian side voiced solidarity with the struggle of the PLO and the Arab people of Palestine for the realization of their legitimate rights, for their return to their homeland and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state.

KATUSHEV ADDRESSES MOSCOW MEETING ON BULGARIAN TREATY

ID152250Y Moscow TASS in English 2233 GMT 15 Mar 78 ID

[Text] Moscow, March 15, TASS--The people of Moscow marked today with a jubilee meeting the 30th anniversary of the treaty of friendship, cooperation and mutual aid between the USSR and the People's Republic of Bulgaria. It was attended by Politbureau member and Secretary of the CPSU CC Fedor Kulakov, Secretary of the CPSU CC Yakov Ryabov, and other officials. A report devoted to the red-letter date was made by Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Minister Konstantin Katushev. The three decades that have passed since the treaty was signed, he said, are a vivid demonstration of the viability of the principles of equality, mutual trust and respect on which Soviet-Bulgarian relations rest. There have been many remarkable events in the history of friendship between the peoples of the USSR and Bulgaria, Katushev went on. A special place among them goes to the visit paid to the People's Republic of Bulgaria in May 1967 by a Soviet party and government delegation headed by Leonid Brezhnev, during which a new treaty was signed. Having used as its basis the glorious traditions of the previous one, it has become a truly program, [as received] fundamental document of Soviet-Bulgarian relations.

The treaty raised Bulgarian-Soviet friendship to a new level, stated the Bulgarian Ambassador in the USSR Dimitur Zhulev. It is a pure and sacred friendship he stressed. Such were, are and will be our relations for centuries to come. Bulgarian communists, Bulgarian Young Communist Leaguers, all upright Bulgarians, defended and upheld this friendship with their lives. Today the entire Bulgarian people is strengthening and developing it.

'PROVOCATIONS' BY CANADIAN SECRET SERVICE EXPOUNDED

LD131113Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Mar 78 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[V. Toshin article: "To Whose Advantage Is It?"]

[Text] IZVESTIYA (No 37) published a TASS statement in connection with the unfriendly actions of the Canadian authorities who demanded quite unjustifiably that a number of employees of Soviet institutions leave the country.

Recent facts attest that under the conditions of detente there are forces operating which want to hinder this process. Unfortunately it must be noted that such forces also exist in Canada. It is precisely these forces which are heating up the atmosphere around the policy of detente and acting to the detriment of the improvement of Soviet-Canadian relations. And since the process of the consolidation of trust and mutual understanding between the USSR and Canada is closely linked with international detente and in turn exerts a positive influence on the consolidation of detente, its opponents are acting with redoubled energy in an attempt to delay it by any means.

The question arises: What was the real reason for this anti-Soviet action by the Canadian authorities? The answer is provided by the Canadian press itself: The reputation of the local intelligence services has recently been so damaged that they considered it necessary to undertake some diversionary maneuver.

In a special commentary Canada's (SAUZEM) news agency has criticized this anti-Soviet action by Canada's intelligence services and pointed to their involvement in espionage and surveillance of Canadians.

The Canadian press has published facts attesting that in 1972-1973 employees of the counterintelligence service (RCMP) entered the premises of the "QUEBEC FREE PRESS AGENCY" and the Parti Quebecois and stole confidential documents. An attempt was made to hush up this scandal by embroidering the affair with the false story of an ordinary "burglary", but the public did not believe the provocateurs.

In 1977, the Western press has reported, the Canadian special services installed bugging equipment in the official offices of members of the Progressive Socialist Party in Parliament. It was also established that the Canadian intelligence services were regularly monitoring the mail of individual progressive figures and members of Parliament.

Incidentally, not so long ago the Montreal and Toronto press published articles describing how the RCMP was compiling secret coded files on federal ministers and parliamentarians. As an example the newspapers mentioned the fact that a file had even been compiled on the prime minister himself and was given the codename "Sea Lion." The press emphasized that the RCMP was collecting information on these people by means of secret surveillance, including electronic bugging equipment installed even in their bedrooms.

Under pressure from public opinion, Canada's attorney general, to whom the counterintelligence services are subordinated, was obliged to admit the anticonstitutional nature of a number of its actions and even, to make matters more convincing, to dismiss several rank and file employees.

In the opinion of observers, the campaign against the intelligence services' illegal actions is acquiring such broad dimensions in Canada that many people are reasonably comparing the present situation with the recent revelations concerning the CIA's activity. For some time now two special investigative commissions on the illegal activity of the intelligence services have been operating; the so-called ("Kebla) commission in Quebec and the "Macdonald Federal Commission" covering the whole country.

Frequent provocative acts against employees of Soviet institutions in various Canadian cities have also been made public.

There have been threats against Soviet people over the telephone, blatant shadowing on city streets, attempts to persuade them to commit treason, suggestions that they do not return to the USSR, attempts to slip anti-Soviet literature into their hands and so forth. There have also been instances of Soviet automobiles being stopped on highways without any reason, tires being punctured, and other obstacles being put in the way of Soviet employees carrying out their duties. In these cases representatives of the Canadian intelligence services took part in the outrages.

Canadian authorities' attention has frequently been drawn to the intolerable nature of such actions and the abnormality of the situation in which Soviet people have to live and work. But the provocations have not halted.

It is perfectly natural that it was essential to take every step to protect Soviet people's legal rights on Canadian territory against such "activity." Of course, Soviet citizens living in this country display due vigilance with respect to provocateurs. USSR embassy representatives in Ottawa, in accordance with universally accepted diplomatic procedure, had contacts with representatives of the Canadian authorities, including employees of the Canadian security service, subunits of which guard foreign diplomatic and trade missions and airports. These contacts were conducted with a view to protecting Soviet citizens living in Canada against acts of provocation. But it recently emerged that someone had decided to use all this in their own unscrupulous interests.

At Ottawa's Dorval International Airport one James Wood was for some time associated with the large detachment of policemen and Customs and Immigration officials. He once suggested transferring official contacts with Soviet representatives at the airport to the sphere of strictly personal relations.

"Overdoing the revelations," Wood suddenly announced that in 1973 the Canadian intelligence services had elaborated a secret arrangement for recruiting a Soviet trade employee in Montreal... He hinted at a provocative arrest which was being prepared with the subsequent detention of a Soviet employee in Canada. Wood also told how the Canadian counter-intelligence "is scrupulously studying all Soviet citizens working in Canada, using the most sophisticated methods." According to him, electronic espionage is being actively used to bug their conversations in the private apartments where they live. To lend greater credence to the story the police official named up to 10 apartments belonging to Soviet citizens where, according to him, bugging devices were also operating 24 hours a day.

It is now quite obvious that Wood was an agent provocateur. Contact with Wood was used by the special services to fabricate the affair of the "expulsion from the country" of several Soviet employees who never even knew about Wood.

The Soviet side did not ignore the facts of provocative activity against Soviet citizens. However, discussion on this subject took place through the usual diplomatic channels. Evidently it is now time to make some things public.

In 1976 a proposal of recruitment was made by the Canadian special services to I.V. Zakharov, second secretary at the USSR Embassy in Canada. I.V. Zakharov gave a suitable rebuff to the RCMP agents. This provocation was made known to the Canadian authorities. Similar occurrences were repeated more than once.

In July 1977 in Ottawa A. Krysin, an employee of the Soviet trade representation, was approached by one Peter (Saydi), who introduced himself as chief of the Canadian firm Peter (Saydi) Art and Advertising.

The employee of the Soviet trade representation, naturally being interested in developing contacts with Canadian business circles, agreed to receive (Saydi). However, the latter began to expound not on commercial affairs, but on his connections with the RCMP. He noted that the RCMP requires Canadian businessmen to brief the police on contacts with Soviet citizens, and added that he personally belongs to the category of "special people" who are permitted by the RCMP to freely approach and even "strike up a friendship" with Soviet citizens. He also said that the RCMP building on Bank Street keeps photographs of all employees of Soviet institutions and there are detailed files, in particular, on A. Krysin himself. (Saydi) was clearly another agent provocateur employed by the RCMP.

A reasonable question arises: How do the Canadian special services create files on their own and foreign citizens? In some bourgeois states, or rather these states' special services, it has become the rule to shadow people in every way. Recently one Western journal published a photomontage: a man's hands are holding a telephone receiver in which instead of a microphone, a little man is sitting listening to everything the man talks about every day with his friends and colleagues. And although the caption to this photomontage was about another country, the photograph could easily appear in any Canadian publication: it illustrates the state of affairs in Canada too. Telephoto lenses, miniature tape recorders, secret shadowing, entering other people's apartments to install listening devices there--this is far from the complete arsenal of methods used in concocting the aforementioned files. In 1976-1977 alone dozens of listening devices were discovered in buildings of the Soviet Embassy, trade representation, consulate and even the mission to the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). Flagrantly encroaching on the work and personal life of Soviet people, the provocateurs fabricate materials for attempts to blackmail and discredit Soviet employees.

It is known that not so long ago on Canadian territory an attempt was made to recruit an employee of the Soviet trade mission, M. In accordance with a mission assigned to him personally by Thomas (Kvilli), one of the leaders of the Canadian special services, in December 1977, he, for a certain sum of money, undertook to collect espionage information on the personnel, nature and work of a Moscow department connected with certain Canadian firms.

At first the Canadian special services wanted to involve agents of the U.S. CIA in the work with M. But they decided to continue the job themselves. According to their calculations, M. was very suited to espionage and anti-Soviet activity. They then let the very experienced RCMP workers (F. Dentremon), (B. Kliff) and (T. Kvilli) loose onto M. They gave him substantial gifts, thousands of roubles and dollars. They did not stint in opening an account in the Ottawa branch of the Bank of Montreal, and then in the Swiss bank corporation too.

RCMP professionals worked out a detailed plan for getting in touch with this person. When on a mission in any country, he was to call Canada at once and dial 613-234-8602. That was enough for RCMP employees to make contact with him in the course of 3 to 5 days. If for any reason this did not work, M could go to the Canadian Embassy in any country and "announce" himself, but not to the ambassador or the adviser, only to...the first secretary..

For citizen M they prepared (just in case!) Canadian passports in the names of Mikhail Dzyuba (No 287302, series AF) and Yaroslav Stadnik (No 406638, series DN). Moreover, a document was drawn up for him (in case of a possible "emergency" exit) which was termed a letter of guarantee for the signature of Canadian Attorney General Warren Allmand himself (now Canadian minister of consumer and corporate affairs) and issued a forged birth certificate No F-63641 and social insurance card No 612006692....

Summing up what has been set out, we note that the main roles on the stage of this whole anti-Soviet show were played by the Canadian special services, and the abode of their main directors is the CIA headquarters in Langley. There are enough facts in this new story showing that the opponents of detente have not laid down their arms. And it only remains for us to express sincere regret that the Canadian official authorities, instead of reciprocating the Soviet Union's desire to proceed along the path of the good development of Soviet-Canadian ties, have occupied a position causing a certain tension in USSR-Canadian relations. As for the irrefutable facts set out in this article, they make it possible to say: The Canadian side has reason to reflect and weigh the actions of their special services soberly.

SWEDEN'S SODER ADDRESSES PARLIAMENT ON FOREIGN POLICY

LD152110Y Moscow TASS in English 2056 GMT 15 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Stockholm, March 15, TASS--The firm policy of neutrality, which enjoys the people's broad support, is the basis of Sweden's foreign policy, stated today the Foreign Minister of Sweden Karin Soder, addressing the Riksdag (parliament) with a government statement on the country's foreign policy. Maintaining stability in the north of Europe, she noted, is the main objective of this policy. Karin Soder stressed the positive role of the Helsinki conference and its final act in promoting European cooperation, touching on the Belgrade meeting of representatives of participating states in the European security and cooperation conference. The minister said that the Swedish side regards the all-European conference and detente as a long-term process, requiring patience and a reasonable policy on the part of all. Karin Soder pointed out that disarmament is a key element in the detente process. She noted that work in this direction is now proceeding under the sign of preparations for a special U.N. General Assembly session on disarmament. The minister pointed to the need for preventing the continuing qualitative and quantitative build-up of nuclear armaments and recalled that the Swedish Government criticized the neutron weapon.

Outlining Sweden's position in regard to the Middle East situation, she appealed to the leaders of Israel to end their large-scale intervention in south Lebanon. The minister leveled criticism at the policy of establishing Israeli settlements on occupied Arab territories.

Karin Soder denounced the apartheid regime in the RSA and white minority rule in Rhodesia.

PCI CALLS NEW GOVERNMENT IMPROVEMENT BUT NOT IDEAL

LD160905Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Mar 78 p 5 LD

[Text] Rome, 13 March--TASS--The new Italian Government formed by Prime Minister G. Andreotti from members of the Christian Democratic Party was sworn in today. On Thursday the new cabinet will be presented to the Italian Parliament. G. Andreotti will read out the government program in the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate, after which voting on the issue of confidence in the government will take place.

F. di Giulio, a member of the Italian Communist Party [PCI] leadership, has called the creation of a parliamentary majority in the country with the participation of the PCI a "significant and new" political event. In an article published in the weekly RINASCITA he stresses that this solution to the crisis could serve as a point of departure for pursuing a policy of renewal in the country and could lay the foundation for the implementation of profound political change. At the same time F. di Giulio notes that the creation of a new parliamentary majority is still not a guarantee of the definitive solution to the problems which fact Italy. According to him, the practical implementation of the proposal by the communists and socialists concerning the formation of a government with the participation of the PCI would accord with the country's needs and most effectively overcome the crisis Italy is experiencing.

U.S. 'HINTS, WARNINGS' TO INFLUENCE ITALY CONTINUE

LD152050Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1557 GMT 15 Mar 78 LD

[Excerpts] Rome--TASS correspondent Vladimir Matyash reports:

The new Italian Government formed at the end of last week by Giulio Andreotti from representatives of the Christian Democratic Party alone held its first meeting today.

However, the United States is not giving up attempts to influence the development of the political situation in Italy and is using the tactic of political "hints" and "warnings." Particular evidence of this is the speech made on Tuesday in Bari by Richard Gardner, the U.S. Ambassador in Italy, who stated that Italy was a key country in the very small circle of friends and allies of the United States. In his words, Italy's solution of its problems within the framework of the Western system would be in accord with the national interests of the United States. Local political observers consider that behind these words of the ambassador it is not difficult to perceive a new U.S. warning against an increase in the role of the Italian Communist Party in the political leadership of the country.

BRITISH, SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTERS TALK ON GIBRALTAR

LD151154Y Moscow TASS in English 1045 GMT 15 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Paris, March 15 TASS--The future of the British Colony of Gibraltar will be discussed here at a one-day meeting of representatives of Britain and Spain today.

The delegations, which arrived in the "neutral" territory of the headquarters of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in Paris, are led by British Foreign Secretary David Owen and Spanish Foreign Minister Marcelino Oreja Aguirre. Representatives of the Gibraltar authorities, Chief Minister Joshua Hassan and opposition leader Maurice Xiberras have for the first time been invited for the meeting.

The preceding meeting on the question of Gibraltar which was held on November 24 last year in Strasbourg ended fruitlessly. In the opinion of the local press, the participants in the current talks will hardly be able to resolve problems in connection with the existence of the British colony on this small rocky cape with an area of 6.5 square kilometres, which was turned into a NATO stronghold in the Mediterranean.

Gibraltar has been a British colony since 1713. In 1974, the U.N. commission on decolonisation demanded that Britain withdraw from the territory. But it preserves its colonial status as earlier. At present, Gibraltar is an important link of the NATO observation and control system in the Mediterranean. Local observers note in this connection that it is precisely the interests of NATO in Gibraltar's territory, that are the main obstacles in the way of resolving the problem of the territory's decolonisation.

According to press reports, the Spanish side intends to raise again at the talks today the question of returning to Spain the territory of Gibraltar and the granting of a "special status" to its population of 30 thousand.

GROWING NATO PRESENCE IN PORTUGAL REPORTED

LD101712Y Moscow TASS in English 1556 GMT 10 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Lisbon, March 10 TASS--NATO is increasing its military presence in Portugal, 18 M-48 A5 tanks were brought here for a NATO brigade stationed at the Santa Margarida base. The brigade is under the immediate command of the military leadership of the bloc. The ANOP agency reports that the tanks were supplied by the Federal Republic of Germany "in the framework of military cooperation of NATO member countries".

AUSTRIAN TU AIDE CALLS ON AUCCTU CHAIRMAN SHIBAYEV

LD141249Y Moscow TRUD in Russian 11 Mar 78 p 1 LD

[Unattributed report: "Meeting at the AUCCTU"]

[Text] AUCCTU Chairman A.I. Shibyayev yesterday received A. Benya, chairman of the Austrian National Council and chairman of the Austrian Trade Union Association, who has come to the Soviet Union at the head of an Austrian parliamentary delegation.

Questions of the international trade union movement, as well as of bilateral cooperation between the Austrian Trade Union Association and the AUCCTU, were discussed during the meeting, which took place in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

AUCCTU Secretaries S.V. Kozlov and F.T. Pimenov participated in the talks.

Departs Moscow

LD141251Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Mar 78 p 4 LD

[Text] An Austrian parliamentary delegation headed by A. Benya, chairman of the National Council, which was in the Soviet Union on an official visit at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet, left Moscow 10 March.

MORE MATERIAL ON ISRAELI MOVE INTO LEBANON

TASS Statement

LD161016Y Moscow TASS in English 1008 GMT 16 Mar 78 LD

["For Ending the Israeli Aggression: TASS Statement"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, March 16, TASS--Follows the text of TASS statement:

On the night of March 14-15 tank and motorized-infantry forces of Israel invaded Lebanon's territory all along the Lebanese-Israeli border and launched a large-scale offensive in the direction of the cities of Sidon and Tyre. At the same time an amphibious force was landed from the sea, and Israeli aviation delivers strikes on Lebanese towns and inhabited localities. Civilians--women and children--die.

Manifest is a direct aggression against the sovereign state--Lebanon. Israel is seeking to realize its long-standing design: to occupy Lebanon's southern part de facto and to defeat the Palestinian resistance movement which is the staunch fighter for endurance of the legitimate national rights of the Arab people of Palestine. This is also obvious from the resolution passed by Israeli parliament on the eve of the invasion of Lebanon. The resolution calls for ruthless struggle against the Palestine Liberation Organization and for physical destruction of its leaders.

All this most obviously reveals once again the real meaning of the policy of Israel, which strives not for peace in the Middle East but for recarving the map of that region. All verbiage and maneuvers around the separate Egyptian-Israeli talks were and still are a screen for the continuation of aggressive actions against Arab countries--neighbors of Israel. Something else is also clear: Such an action could not have been undertaken by Israel without at least the tacit support from those whose arms the Israeli troops are equipped with.

The current events in Lebanon are not a local conflict but a blow, planned in advance, on the Arab national liberation movement, on the very possibility of reaching a just Middle East settlement.

The current developments in that area bear out once again the validity of the repeated warnings by the Soviet Union that the lack of settlement of the Middle East conflict, the occupation of Arab lands by Israel and the trampling of the legitimate national rights of the Arab people of Palestine create a situation leading to military clashes and fraught with serious aftermaths.

TASS is authorized to state that the Soviet Union resolutely condemns the armed invasion of Lebanon by Israel and calls upon all who cherish peace to join their efforts so that the Israeli aggression be ended and its troops be immediately withdrawn from Lebanon's territory. The whole responsibility for the dangerous consequences of the fresh aggravation of the Middle East situation is borne by the Government of Israel.

Israel's Allies

LD160524Y Moscow TASS in English 0510 GMT 16 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 16, TASS--"The arrogant Israeli aggressors must realize before it is too late that the dangerous adventure they have embarked upon will in the long run turn against their own designs.

No one will permit them to perpetrate with impunity armed robbery in the light of day on alien territories," writes today PRAVDA's political commentator Yuriy Zhukov.

Commenting on Israel's latest large-scale aggression on the territory of south Lebanon, the commentator points out that this action against the long-suffering Palestinians was prepared well in advance. Even the first responses coming from Washington convincingly show that this massacre was undertaken with the knowledge and blessing of Israel's American allies and sponsors. Facts indicate that the Israeli military's arrogance and overweening was boosted by Egyptian President as-Sadat's separatist collusion with the aggressors to the detriment of the vital interests of the Arab nation, as he conceded to them one position after another, getting nothing in return. A still greater toughening of the aggressor's position was the only response to all these unilateral concessions.

"Soviet public opinion brandishes with shame the Israeli aggressor. It resolutely demands a stop to the blood-bath and the withdrawal of Israeli troops from south Lebanese territory", stresses PRAVDA's political commentator.

U.S. Support of Israel

LD151410Y Moscow in English to Africa 1330 GMT 15 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Israeli troops have crossed into Lebanon. Tank columns are moving on the cities of Sidon and Tyre, and planes and artillery are attacking populated centers and Palestinian refugee camps. Blood is again being shed in the Middle East. Here is what Radio Moscow commentator Valentin Lyapin writes:

"Unprecedented militaristic propaganda and saber-rattling was the prelude to Tel Aviv's armed aggression. It was prepared openly and defiantly. The Israeli parliament passed a resolution approving an attack on Lebanon and the physical destruction of PLO representatives abroad. This was a document legalizing aggression and terrorism.

By force of arms the aggressor is trying to intimidate the Arabs to make them accept Israeli occupation of Arab land and to capitulate. The blow is directed against one of the leading units of the Arab national liberation movement, the Palestine Liberation Organization, and those forces which refuse to accept a surrender.

The Israeli action takes place while Tel Aviv and Cairo are talking about a separate deal. This shows once again that separate talks are no obstacle for Israel in continuing its policy of aggression. Tel Aviv takes good advantage of Cairo's isolation in the Arab world. What's more, Cairo is echoing Israel's anti-Palestinian campaign. This is quite in line with the separate deal which is to be made at the expense of the Palestinian Arabs.

The Israeli aggressor acts with such impudence because it has the support of the United States. That support was confirmed by the White House 6 days ago when the Israeli defense minister, Weizman, was in Washington. Tel Aviv is trying to justify its new aggressive action with talk about security. But security cannot be guaranteed by depriving the Palestinian people of the right to an independent existence. Israel has seized the land of the Palestinians and has used troops many times against them and yet it was unable to break the resistance movement.

Said the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization, Yasir 'Arafat: We are determined to oppose any provocation. We shall continue the struggle.

And on the side of the just cause of the Palestinians and the Arabs are all the peace-loving people, including the Soviet Union.

Washington's Connivance

LD151614Y Moscow TASS in English 1602 GMT 15 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 15, TASS--TASS political commentator Sergey Kulik writes: Israel's Armed Forces have launched an unprecedented armed aggression against Lebanon in order to occupy the southern part of that country. The recent armed clash between Palestine guerrilla units and Israeli Army units in suburbs of Tel Aviv has been the pretext for Israeli extremists' new bandit sally. Though Lebanon's prime minister, Salim al-Huss, officially stated that his country "has nothing to do" with that incident, the Israeli Army, supported by aviation and navy, intruded into Lebanon and moved deep into the territory of the sovereign Arab state. In Tel Aviv they do not conceal that the Palestine resistance movement and the patriotic forces of Lebanon are the main target of the Israeli Army's massive blow. Backed by the U.S. military support and using the capitulatory line of the Egyptian leadership which untied the hands of the Israeli army in the Sinai, Tel Aviv is leading things to frustration of a comprehensive political settlement in the Middle East.

Israel's aggression against Lebanon became possible, in the first place, because of American military aid and Washington supporters' connivance with Israel. The columns of American tanks, flying an Israeli flag, are on their way to Beirut and Tyre, sowing death and destruction, and six-starred U.S. planes are bombing Lebanese towns. It should be noted that the Israeli aggression against Lebanon directly followed Washington's visit of Israeli Defence Minister E. Weizman who requested from the Pentagon 13,500 million dollars worth of armaments. Decision was taken those days on the sale to Tel Aviv of 75 American F-15 and F-16 fighter planes.

President as-Sadat has also taken a position contrary to the Arabs' interests. Instead of denouncing the Israeli provocateurs and criticizing their accomplice overseas, he started thundering against the Palestinians. Simultaneously the Cairo authorities are fanning up an anti-Palestinian campaign. Things are being led to de facto refusal from recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organisation as the only legitimate representative of the Arab people of Palestine. The situation in the Middle East has largely complicated again as a result of actions of the aggressors and Arab reaction that lined up with them. Preventing settlement of the Middle East conflict, these forces are trying to undermine the national liberation struggle of the Arab peoples, to consolidate Israel's occupation of native Arab lands, to deprive the Arab people of Palestine of their legitimate national rights, including the right to self-determination and the right to have their own state in accordance with the U.S. decisions.

The Soviet Union's stand on the question of the Middle East settlement is well known. This is a principled course aimed at attaining a comprehensive Middle East settlement, the ensuring of the legitimate national rights of the Arab people of Palestine being an inalienable component part of it.

State Department Justification

LD151626Y Moscow TASS in English 1613 GMT 15 Mar 78 LD

[Excerpt] Washington, March 15, TASS--Israel's defense minister, Weizman, said at a press conference in Tel Aviv that the Israeli troops will continue their operations in Lebanon as long as necessary. This actually means Israeli occupation of south Lebanon.

It is noted here that on the eve of the Israeli aggression Weizman visited Washington where he held talks with the U.S. Government and asked the Pentagon for additional deliveries of large consignments of U.S. offensive weapons including jet planes, for the Israeli Army. And though the White House spokesman made assurances today that the United States was not informed in advance about Israel's action that was planned to be launched in Lebanon, he had to admit that the attack was not unexpected to the U.S. Government.

A high-placed representative of the U.S. Department of State actually justified the open armed aggression against Lebanon and asserted that the Israeli operation will not create a serious problem in the Middle East situation. It is absolutely obvious that Israel's action taken with Washington's knowledge became possible due to the direct support of the United States. Such pronouncements of representatives of the Department of State only encourage the aggressor.

Preparing the invasion of Lebanon, the Israeli command rushed to the Lebanese border a number of military units from the Sinai. According to the Washington POST, the Israeli general staff proceeded from the fact that as a result of As-Sadat's policy Egypt removed itself from Arab fighting line. It is characteristic that the Egyptian president, speaking at a press conference in Cairo, described the Palestinians' actions as "reckless" but kept from any condemnation of the Israeli aggressor.

Commenting on As-Sadat's pronouncements, a representative of the U.S. Department of State said that the U.S. Government welcomes this stand of the Egyptian leader. He pointed out that contrary to newspaper reports President as-Sadat did not request the United States to send a message to the Israeli Government with a demand not to take "retaliatory measures" against Palestinian guerrillas.

Report From Damascus

'D152032Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1930 GMT 15 Mar 78 LD

[Report by special correspondent Farid Seyful-Mulyukov from Damascus]

[Text] The Israeli armed aggression in southern Lebanon, which started today, arouses indignation and concern in the Syrian Arab Republic. Damascus Radio is broadcasting communiques on the military action that is taking place throughout southern Lebanon between Israeli troops and units of the Palestinian fighters. This is Israel's biggest attack since the October war of 1973. A 30,000-strong Israeli Army is being used against the camps of the Palestinian refugees, Lebanese towns and settlements in the southern part of the country. The Tel Aviv military clique, which has long been preparing for this aggression, is using aircraft, armored units and naval forces on a wide scale. Israeli planes are carrying out barbarous air raids on the Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut and other inhabited areas of Lebanon. The development of events not far from the borders of the Syrian Arab Republic is being followed closely in Damascus. They believe here that the Israeli aggression is directed not only against the Palestine resistance movement but is also intended to intimidate and weaken the positions of the Arab countries which oppose the imperialist plot in the Near East.

The Syrian Foreign Ministry made a statement today demanding the immediate withdrawal of the aggressive Israeli troops from Lebanese territory and an end to the armed Israeli adventure in the Lebanon.

Your correspondent met Abu Mayzar, member of the PLO Executive, in Damascus today. Abu Mayzar said: The Israeli aggression in southern Lebanon is a part of the war which the Zionist hawks in Tel Aviv decided to expand against the Arab people of Palestine, against the refugee camps, our children, women and old people. He said: This aggression is a fresh and dangerous link in Israel's aggressive policy. It aims at inflicting a blow on the Palestinian people and their revolutionary movement and at making null and void the lawful rights of the Palestinian people.

PLO Offices

LD151412Y Moscow TASS in English 1400 GMT 15 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 15 TASS--Israel has launched a rabid campaign against the Arab people of Palestine. A massive offensive in underway against the camps of Palestinian refugees in the course of open aggression against Lebanon. At the same time, Israel demanded that all countries with which it has diplomatic relations should close representations of the Palestine Liberation Organization recognized by the organization of the United Nations as the sole legitimate representative of the Arab people of Palestine.

This impudent demand of the Israeli aggressors meets with condemnation and rebuff. In many countries, representatives of public and officials declared their negative attitude to Tel Aviv's demand.

Vienna--Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky said that Austria does not intend to close the PLO bureau in Vienna. He noted that the Israeli Government is incompetent to demand that Austria take such a measure.

Brussels, March 15, TASS--Belgian Foreign Minister Henri Simonet declared against the demand of the Israeli leaders that the representations of the Palestine Liberation Organization be closed in the capitals of the Western states. He stressed that there is a Palestinian problem in the Middle East and this cannot be denied.

Stockholm, March 15, TASS--A spokesman for the Swedish Foreign Ministry noted that his country cannot close the PLO information and liaison bureau in the Swedish capital. He stressed that Sweden regards PLO to be the most representative organization of the Palestinians.

Tokyo, March 15, TASS--The Japanese Foreign Ministry rejected Tel Aviv's demand that it close the PLO permanent representation in Tokyo. A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry stressed that Japan does not intend to take any steps against the representation of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Washington, March 15, TASS--A spokesman for the U.S. State Department said that in the light of the Tel Aviv's request for the closing of the PLO representation, the State Department will examine the activity of the permanent observer of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the United Nations and the PLO information bureau in New York.

As is known, the status of representation of the PLO permanent observer to the United Nations organization as well as the permanent representatives of all the U.N. member-countries in New York is determined by the agreement between the U.N. headquarters and the U.S. administration, and it is beyond the competence of the U.S. Government bodies.

As far as the PLO information centre is concerned it, as the U.S. press notes, was opened and is functioning in full conformity with the internal legislation of the United States.

Battle Chronology

LD151302Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1125 GMT 15 Mar 78 LD

["Overt Aggression"--TASS headline]

[Text] Beirut--TASS correspondent Leonid Volnov reports: Last night mechanized units of the Israeli Army with air support committed aggression against Lebanon.

They crossed the Lebanese border along its entire length and in fact began an occupation of south Lebanon. The Lebanese press says over 30,000 Israeli troops are taking part. At the same time an Israeli marine force has landed between Sidon and Tyre. The city of Tyre, which is close to the border, is being systematically shelled from the sea; also it has been announced that the Israelis have landed a tank assault force 5 kilometers from Tyre. Officials in Tel Aviv declare that the aim of these Israeli actions is to destroy the bases of Palestinian partisans. It is noted that in scope and intensity the Israeli military actions exceed the aggression of September 1972, when Israelis occupied southern Lebanese areas for 2 days and nights.

The aggression started soon after midnight. Action began in a triangle formed by the southwestern coast of Lebanon, the cities of Sidon and Tyre and the foothills of Mount Hermon. It was announced that the aggression was preceded by reconnaissance flights by the Israeli Air Force soon after midnight, when groups of aircraft started flying over the Lebanese coast. At 0100 Israel opened heavy artillery and rocket fire from sites along the entire stretch of the border between the villages of Rashayya Al-Fukhkhar in the east and An-Naqurah in the west. Intensive firing went on for half an hour, after which Israeli planes started massive bombing of the area, using illumination bombs.

At 0200 Israeli mechanized units with air and artillery support invaded Lebanese territory in four directions:

Marj 'Uyun-Al-Khiyam-ibil As-Saqi-Tellat as-Suhayr;

(Udayash)-At-Tayyibah;

Yarin-Tayr-Harfa-An-Naqurah-Tyre; and

Bint Jubayl-Marun Ar-Ra's.

At the same time Israeli naval forces approached the coast near Tyre and attempted to land marines. According to Palestine information organs, units of the Palestine resistance movement and the Lebanese national patriotic forces engaged in a fierce battle and contained the Israeli units until 0500. The enemy suffered large manpower and equipment losses.

However, with great difficulty the Israelis managed to land their marines on the Lebanese coast between the villages of Al-'Izziyah and Al-Hinniyah. At 0500 the enemy, using their mechanized units, renewed their advance in all directions. Battles are continuing.

It is reported that Tyre is now being subjected to intensive rocket and artillery fire from the sea. It is also pointed out that the town of Ad-Damur, which is 20 kilometers south of the Lebanese capital, was bombed in the night by the Israeli Air Force.

By 0330 the Israeli Air Force had carried out raids on Sidon, while numerous Israeli warships cruised along the whole southern coast of Lebanon. The warships fired on settlements on the coast. Certain warships anchored off the island of Qazir in the sea near Sidon.

The Israeli aggression carried out against southern Lebanon is taking place in a large area of 2,000 square kilometers.

Israeli radio is carrying reports from battle areas, including recordings of bombings and firing, whose victims are peaceful Lebanese citizens and defenseless inhabitants of Palestinian refugee camps. Large losses are reported among the peaceful population of south Lebanese cities and settlements.

Arab League Message

LD151630Y Moscow TASS in English 1616 GMT 15 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Cairo, March 15 TASS--The secretary general of the Arab League, Mahmud Riyad, has sent an urgent message to the United Nations secretary general, Kurt Waldheim, urging him to immediately intervene with the aim of putting an end to the Israeli aggression against Lebanon and securing a withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanese territory.

The secretary general stressed that the victims of the Israeli aggression are absolutely innocent Lebanese civilians as well as Palestinians who were expelled by Israel from their lands and found shelter in Lebanon. Mahmud Riyad noted that the purpose of the Israeli punitive cooperation is to exterminate the Palestinian people.

Lebanese Cabinet Meeting

LD151426Y Moscow TASS in English 1411 GMT 15 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, March 15, TASS--An extraordinary meeting of Lebanon's Council of Ministers was held this morning. The meeting, chaired by President Ilyas Sarkis, was devoted to events pertaining to the current Israeli aggression in the south of the country. After the meeting, Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus told journalists that a plan of action in the obtaining situation had been endorsed.

The government maintains contacts with Syria and keeps a close eye over the developments.

Butrus will receive today the ambassadors of five great powers to put them in the know about the course of the aggression and exchange opinions on measures that must be taken.

Sarkis' Remarks

LD152042Y Moscow TASS in English 2019 GMT 15 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, March 15, TASS--Israel's military operations on Lebanese territory constitute a violation of international principles and Lebanon's rights, as well as those of its people, declared the president of the Lebanese Republic, Ilyas Sarkis. There is no justification for these actions, he underlined.

We are doing everything necessary, the president said, for upholding national sovereignty, in the interests of our motherland's integrity and the security of its citizens.

Lebanon has always come out against all forms of violence and expresses the hope that all honest people throughout the world will be on its side, on the side of justice, stated the Lebanese president.

MOSCOW DEMONSTRATORS PROTEST USSR SUPPORT OF PALESTINIANS

LD142100Y Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 13 Mar 78 p 1 LD

[Text] Moscow--Agencies--Demonstrations were staged yesterday before Friendship House near the Kremlin in Moscow to protest the Soviet leadership's support of the Palestinian resistance. The demonstrators carried placards denouncing the perpetrators of the Israeli bus incident.

It is understood that demonstrations in Moscow take place only with the approval and the permission of Soviet authorities.

'ARAFAT ON UNIFICATION WITHIN PALESTINIAN MOVEMENT

LD151524Y Moscow TASS in English 1435 GMT 15 Mar 78 LD

["Palestinians Rally Their Ranks"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, March 15 TASS--"We are at one in that peace in the Middle East cannot be based on oppression and enslavement. It must be built with due consideration for the lawful national rights of the Arab Palestinian people", it was stated by the chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, Yasir 'Arafat. During his stay in Moscow he gave an interview to a correspondent of the NEW TIMES [NOVOYE VREMYA] weekly.

"The Palestine resistance movement is now passing through a very responsible period", Yasir 'Arafat said. "It is necessary to take into account that the struggle of the Palestinians is undergoing a considerable influence on all Arab states. That is why such a fierce campaign has been started against us. Attempts are being made to explode our movement from the inside. We also have to conduct armed struggle not only in the occupied lands but also in the south of Lebanon where the Israelis, using as a cover the local forces that are hostile to us, are waging a real war against forces of the Palestinian resistance movement".

"To successfully oppose all this we, together with our Syrian brothers and a number of other Arab countries, created a front of steadfastness and confrontation at the conferences in Tripoli and Algiers", Yasir 'Arafat went on. "This front, or alliance, is not limited to its five direct participants but has many supporters in all Arab countries, including in Egypt.

As to the situation directly in the Palestinian movement, I can note with satisfaction that we have succeeded in overcoming political differences and achieving this by the most democratic means. In the period of liberation struggle it is by no means simple to implement democracy, but we have succeeded in this".

"It is very important that a Supreme Military Council was created, which I have the honour to head as commander-in-chief of the forces of the Palestinian resistance movement. At present the process of unification continues, and from simple coordination in the military field we have advanced to the practical unification of armed formations". "We believe that the Soviet Union plays an important role in the attainment of the aspirations of the Arab peoples, Yasir 'Arafat said. It is especially important for us that the USSR, which is a genuine and true friend of the Arabs, invariably comes out in support of the lawful rights of the Arab Palestinian people. In our opinion the USSR can and should play the most active role in the solution of the Middle East problem. With this we link our hopes for the attainment of our lawful rights". "The Palestinian people highly values the firm and principled stand in respect of our struggle taken by the Soviet people, the CPSU and personally Leonid Brezhnev".

PLO DISCUSSES STRATEGY WITH EGYPTIAN LEFTIST PARTY

LD152136Y Moscow TASS in English 2116 GMT 15 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Cairo, March 15, TASS--No major international problems, including the Middle East conflict, can be solved without the participation of the Soviet Union, one of the great powers. At the same time it is impossible to achieve the realisation of the basic demands of the Arabs--namely the liberation of the Israeli occupied lands and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state--without inter-Arab solidarity. This was said, according to the newspaper AL-AHALI, by members of a delegation of the Palestine Liberation Organizati led by Majdi Ramadan, member of the PLO Executive Committee, at a meeting here with the lead ship of the National Progressive (left) Party (NPP) of Egypt.

Members of the PLO delegation stressed that the strategy of the Palestine resistance movement in the struggle for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East rests on the joint Soviet-American statement on the Middle East. This statement stressed the need for the resumption of the Geneva peace conference, a special international organ created for discussing and taking decisions on all the problems of a Middle East settlement. The delegation condemned the recent decision of the Egyptian authorities to cancel the rights that were enjoyed by Palestinians in Egypt and urged the Arab peoples to rally in the struggle against the expanionist policy of Israel which covets not only Palestine but also other Arab countries.

Welcoming the delegation, Khalid Muhi ad-Din, NPP chairman, said that his party considers the Palestine problem a matter of vital concern for Egypt since Israel's presence in the land of Palestine also jeopardizes the security of the Egyptian people.

Lutfi al-Huli, member of the NPP General Secretariat, said that the left party was the only party in the country to have spoken out against President as-Sadat's trip to Israel and to have pointed to the hopelessness of the course toward separate talks with Israel. The events that followed, Lutfi al-Huli said, fully bore out the correctness of our party's position.

EGYPTIAN LEADERSHIP'S CAPITULATORY ACTIONS CONDEMNED

LD151515Y Moscow TRUD in Russian 14 Mar 78 p 3 LD

[S. Modenov/A. Repin untitled international review]

[Excerpt] The Separatists' Maneuvers

Despite the fact that direct contacts between Cairo and Tel Aviv have, for the moment, been broken off, the separate Egyptian-Israeli talks are in fact continuing. They are going on through the mediation of Atherton, U.S. assistant secretary of state, who was sent by Washington to the Near East to promote a separate deal. With Atherton's assistance, As-Sadat and Begin have exchanged messages in which both figures express a desire to continue the process of negotiation. Whereas Atherton has been successful in this matter, his efforts to bring Jordan and Syria into the separatist policy have failed.

In this situation Israel and the United States are directing their main efforts toward "squeezing" As-Sadat "dry" and toward carrying to its logical conclusion his policy of surrendering one position after another. The results are evident. Thus, the Algerian newspeper EL MOUDJAHID notes that, although the Egyptian president is still continuing to talk officially about the need for the withdrawal of Israeli troops from the occupied territories, he is doing so purely for propaganda purposes.

Since the unsuccessful adventure at Cyprus' Larnaca airport, which cost the lives of 15 Egyptian soldiers, Cairo has unleashed a frantic anti-Palestinian campaign. The Cairo newspapers are denigrating the Palestinian leaders, and Egyptian Prime Minister Salim has made overt threats against them and also announced that Palestinians living in Egypt are stripped of their rights--which places these people in the same situation as Arabs living in territories occupied by Israel. After such measures it is only one step to an official renunciation by Cairo of the decision of the Rabat conference of Arab heads of state to consider the PLO the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinians, without which the problems concerning the Palestinian Arabs cannot be resolved. As-Sadat, EL MOUDJAHID stresses, is seeking to strike a blow against the PLO in order to exclude it from the process of a Near East settlement. And this is precisely what Israel has long been seeking to achieve.

The progressive forces of the Arab world are countering the capitulatory actions of the Egyptian leadership with unity and scruple and with cohesion with all their natural allies--the Soviet Union and the other countries of the socialist community. This unity is one of the decisive factors in the struggle for the elimination of the consequences of the Israeli aggression and in achieving a comprehensive Near East settlement. This was stressed during a conversation in the Kremlin on 9 March between Comrade L.I. Brezhnev and Y. 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee.

IRAQI COMMUNIST PARTY HOLDS PLENARY MEETING 10 MAR

Discussions, Other Activities

LD131328Y Moscow TASS in English 1233 GMT 13 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Baghdad, March 13 TASS--A plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Iraqi Communist Party was held in Baghdad on March 10th. It discussed the international and inter-Arab situation as well as the domestic political situation in Iraq and adopted a political decision on these matters. The participants in the plenary meeting, reports the newspaper TARIQ ASH-SHA'B, saluted the 44th anniversary of the formation of the ICP, falling due on March 31, and decided to extensively celebrate this anniversary as well as national holidays of Iraq that are important milestones on the road of the country's revolutionary development. The plenary meeting of the Central Committee decided to extensively mark the 5th anniversary of the creation of the Progressive National-Patriotic Front.

The plenary meeting approved a statement of solidarity with the struggle of the Arab peoples against imperialism, Zionism, and reaction. Despite the difficulties encountered by the Arab national-liberation movement and the surrender of right-wing forces under the aggressive onslaught of imperialism and Zionism, the statement says, the Arab masses continued by all means their heroic struggle and again prevented the imperialist, reactionary and Zionist forces from achieving a fulfilment of their plans.

The participants in the plenary meeting called on the progressive circles of the Egyptian people to demand the release of political prisoners--communists, supporters of 'Abd an-Nasir and other patriots. They came out for strengthening the solidarity of the peace-loving forces of the whole world and of Arab countries in the struggle against the capitulatory course of the ruling regime in Egypt, for the preservation of the Egyptian people's economic and social gains.

Having indicated that the right-wing forces in Lebanon, supported by imperialism and Israel, have failed in splitting the country because of the staunchness of the Lebanese national-patriotic movement and its close cooperation with the Palestine resistance movement, because of international and Arab solidarity, the plenary meeting confirmed support by the Iraqi Communist Party for the Lebanese people in its efforts to defend unity and democracy in the country. The statement salutes the heroic struggle of the Arab people of Palestine in the occupied territories against the Zionist-racist occupation, against the policy of establishing militarized settlements, against plans to deny to the Arab Palestinian people its right to self-determination and creation of an independent national state.

The Central Committee noted that the national and progressive forces in many Arab countries continue to struggle for democratic freedoms and consolidation of national gains, while being subjected to repressions, violence and being denied elementary human rights. In this connection the plenary meeting expressed solidarity with the victims of terror, demanded their release and also the granting of democratic freedoms to the popular masses in all Arab countries.

Political Report

LD151120Y Moscow TASS in English 1055 GMT 15 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Baghdad, March 15 TASS--Last year, the socialist community headed by the Soviet Union scored outstanding successes in implementing economic development plans, strengthening the foundation of the socialist society and building a material and technical base of communism, says the political report endorsed by the plenary meeting of the Iraqi Communist Party CC which was held in Baghdad on March 10. The growth of the influence of the socialist community, which has become a decisive factor of international life, the impossibility of resolving without the socialist countries the problems concerning mankind's interests, are becoming ever more obvious from day to day, notes the document published in the newspaper TARIQ ASH-SHA'B.

In view of the tremendous achievements of the forces of progress, peace, socialism and national liberation, the report goes on to say, imperialism is making desperate efforts in an attempt to weaken the positions of these forces.

Imperialism with the USA at its head is striving to undermine the process of international detente and efforts for limiting the arms race and to revive cold war traditions in international life.

The Arab national liberation movement encountered last year serious difficulties and dangerous deviations, which resulted in an increase of the onslaught of imperialism, Zionism and reaction. As-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem and the other separate meetings between the head of the Egyptian regime and Israeli representatives, which followed it, are a dangerous link in the designs of imperialism, Zionism and reaction directed at liquidating the Palestinian problem, disuniting progressive Arab forces, destroying socio-economic gains of the Arab peoples, undermining their relations with the USSR and the other socialist countries.

In connection with the aggravation of the Middle East situation, the plenary meeting of the Iraqi Communist Party CC drew special attention for the fact that friendship, cooperation and alliance with the USSR and other countries of the socialist community have been and remain the necessary prerequisites for a successful struggle of the Arabs for the elimination of the consequences of the Israeli aggression. This alliance is of a strategic character and is based on the principled policy of the Soviet Union in struggle against imperialism, for peace, democracy and social progress. The plenary meeting reaffirmed the necessity of uniting the ranks of the progressive Arab forces with the aim of frustrating the conspiracy of imperialism, Zionism and reaction. He stressed the great significance of strengthening the progressive Arab front set up at the meetings in Tripoli and Algiers and pointed to the necessity of Iraq's participation in it.

The home policy section of the report notes the significance of continuing Iraq's progressive line in the economic, social and cultural fields, consolidating all progressive and democratic forces of the country within the framework of the progressive national patriotic front.

PARTICIPANTS IN USSR-MOROCCO TALKS IN MOSCOW LISTED

The item entitled "More Material on Moroccan Prime Minister's USSR Visit" and subtitled "Communique Issued" on page F 2 of the Middle East & North Africa section of the Soviet Union DAILY REPORT has been compared with the apparent text of the Soviet-Moroccan communique published on pages 1 and 4 of Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 March 1978 Morning Edition, revealing the following addition:

Paragraph one, last line, reads...Minister Ahmed Osman.

Taking part in the talks were:

On the Soviet side I.V. Arkhipov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; S.A. Skachkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations; N.S. Patolichev, USSR foreign trade minister; A.A. Ishkov, USSR minister of fish industry; L.F. Ilichev, USSR deputy foreign minister; D.P. Goryunov, USSR ambassador to Morocco; and A.A. Shvedov and V.N. Sofinskiy, USSR Foreign Ministry department chiefs.

On the Moroccan side A. Reghai, minister of commerce and industry; M. Saadi, minister of energy and mining resources; O. Slimani, secretary of state for the prime minister's office in charge of economic affairs; M.K. Lamrani, director general of the kingdom's phosphates board; M. Jorio, Moroccan ambassador to the USSR; A. Lahlov, director general of the purchases and export board; A. El-Belehiti, director general of the national fisheries board, Z.A. Alaqui, chief of the Moroccan Foreign Ministry's economic department; and O. Belkora, chief of the Moroccan Foreign Ministry Europe and America department.

TYAZHELNIKOV SIGNS COOPERATION PROGRAM WITH PDRY FRONT

LD161058Y Moscow TASS in English 0958 GMT 16 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Aden, March 16 TASS--A programme for inter-party contacts between the CPSU and the National Front of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen for 1978-1979 was signed here. It envisages development of cooperation in the training of party-political personnel, assistance for the higher school of scientific socialism at the Central Committee of the National Front in the scientific, methodical and organizational spheres.

The programme was signed by the head of the visiting Soviet party delegation, Yevgeniy Tyazhelnikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and head of the Propaganda Department of the CPSU Central Committee, and by 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Wali Nashir, minister of industry of Democratic Yemen.

BRIEFS

SOVIET-ALGERIAN ACCORD--Algiers, March 2 TASS--An agreement on cooperation in planning between the State Planning Committee of the USSR Council of Ministers and the State Secretariat for Planning of the Algerian People's Democratic Republic was signed here. The agreement envisages exchanges of theoretical and practical experience in the state, branch and regional planning in Algeria and the Soviet Union. The agreement is also setting up a subcommittee to coordinate cooperation in planning within the framework of the permanent intergovernmental Soviet-Algerian Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1919 GMT 2 Mar 78 LD]

FURTHER MATERIAL ON HORN OF AFRICA CONFLICT

Mengistu, Foreign Minister Remarks

LD151338Y Moscow TASS in English 1315 GMT 15 Mar 78 LD

[Text] London, March 15, TASS--The chairman of Ethiopia's Provisional Military Administrative Council [PMAC] Mengistu Haile Mariam said in an interview to the magazine AFRICA in connection with the situation in the Horn of Africa: "We are not making any territorial claims to our neighbours, including Somalia. After the victory of the revolution in Ethiopia we extended to Somalia a hand of friendship and cooperation proceeding from the conviction that cooperation is better than confrontation. He made a number of mutually beneficial proposals on cooperation in the economic, trade, social and cultural fields in the plane of normalising bilateral relations.

"As a basis for long-term political and economic cooperation we even proposed to create in this area a confederation, the chairman of the PMAC went on. But the Somali authorities rejected all these constructive proposals and unleashed a war against Ethiopia."

Addis Ababa, March 15, TASS--The restoration of peace in the area of the Horn of Africa requires that Somalia give up its expansionist plans in respect of Ethiopia and other neighbouring countries, it was stressed by Ethiopia's Foreign Minister Feleke Gedle-Giorgis. The causes of the conflict will be eliminated only when Somalia agrees to observe the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries and respect the international recognition of the border in accordance with the charters of the United Nations Organisation and the Organisation of African Unity.

The minister expressed gratitude to socialist countries, especially to the Soviet Union, for the aid that is being given to Ethiopia "at a critical moment of its history". "Without this support he said, "it would have been very difficult for our revolution to resist the coordinated actions of imperialism and reactionary Arab regimes. Socialist solidarity has again demonstrated its effectiveness".

Counterrevolutionaries Cleared

LD151340Y Moscow TASS in English 1235 GMT 15 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, March 15, TASS--Ethiopia's provinces are being cleared from counter-revolutionary elements. As it is reported by the Ethiopian news agency today, a big group of anarchists, and also an arms depot used for subversive actions, have been captured in Alemaya, Hararge Province.

Activities of a big counterrevolutionary grouping have been stopped in Aselle, the Arsi Province.

Conflict's Logical Outcome

LD160220Y Moscow in English to North America 2230 GMT 15 Mar 78 LD

[Text] According to the latest reports the armed conflict in the Horn of Africa caused by Somali aggression against Ethiopia has approached its logical outcome--the defeat of Somali forces armed with Western military hardware have been fully driven out of Ethiopian territory. [as heard] So far, however, the Somali leaders have failed to show readiness to give up their territorial claims to Ethiopia or to neighbouring Kenya and Djibouti. Here's a comment from our news analyst Nikolay Turkatenko:

Somali aggression, as well as the maneuvers of those who have actually encouraged it, has created a situation whose significance and consequences go far beyond the boundaries of the region. The attempts to resolve disputes by force are fraught with danger everywhere and this applies to Africa in no small measure. The borders of the independent countries there, inherited from colonial times, are very arbitrary as often as not, and even if several African countries follow in Somalia's steps and start to resort to armed aggression against their neighbors, you can easily imagine what is going to happen. The conflict in the Horn of Africa has involved a number of countries far outside the region in one way or another, and it has demonstrated the fundamental differences between the positions of those who seek to consolidate international security and (?assert) the principles of the renunciation of the use of force in world relations and support to the victim of aggression and of those who encourage aggression in a bid to use it to promote their own aims.

These differences are revealed with particular force in the actions of the Soviet Union and Cuba on the one hand and a number of imperialist powers, first of all the United States, on the other. The Soviet Union and Cuba remained loyal to the principle of solidarity with the Ethiopian people who became a victim of armed aggression, and they immediately responded to request from that country's legitimate and sovereign government to give it all round assistance, including military aid.

Incidentally, the West, including Washington, did not deny the fact that Ethiopia was a victim of aggression. [words indistinct] At least directly, that Ethiopia has a right to appeal for support to the countries of her choice. Nevertheless the true state of affairs was deliberately distorted in Washington from the outset. Strong condemnation and concern were expressed there not so much about Somali aggression as about the support for the victim of aggression from the Soviet Union and Cuba.

The men in Washington ignored the fact that the Soviet Union and Cuba came to Ethiopia's rescue at her own request and began to describe that support as communist expansion. It's on this pretext that Washington, while making official statements about the desire to help achieve a peace settlement in the Horn of Africa, actually encouraged Somali aggression. In particular it was done at a time when it looked like the Somali forces had firmly captured the intiative. For instance, just recall the large scale supplies of American and other Western arms to Somali through Saudi Arabia, Iran and Egypt.

At the same time, in a bid to isolate Ethiopia from her friends, Washington tried to put pressure on the Soviet Union. The United States began to tie up the conflict in the Horn of Africa with the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks now (?under) SALT II. A case in point was a statement made by the United States national security advisor, Zbigniew Brzezinski, on 1 March. Although Brzezinski spoke in vague terms he did tie up the problem with Soviet support for Ethiopia.

Pressure is being put on Ethiopia too. It was demanded that Soviet and Cuban military personnel should leave Ethiopia, although I repeat that this personnel had been invited by Ethiopia and that Ethiopia should allow foreign observers to enter her territory. The Ethiopian Government has rejected such demands, it describes them as attempts to interfere in the country's domestic affairs and dictate the solution of problems within the terms of her sovereignty.

As for the United States attempts to put pressure on the Soviet Union, they are equally groundless. To begin with, the success of SALT-II would meet the United States interests to no less a degree than those of the Soviet Union. Secondly, although there are many differences and even disputes between this country and the United States they do have common interests and are developing their cooperation in many fields. In fact, this is the essence of the relaxation of tension.

The question arises, however, what has all that to do with the situation in the Horn of Africa? Although the Soviet Union does support Ethiopia is it (?drawing) the Ethiopians into committing aggression against any country? Certainly not. It's wrong to say that Soviet actions in the Horn of Africa are a threat to peace. Such a threat has always come from aggression or the intention of committing it and not from assistance to the victim of aggression.

The renunciation of the use of force and the attempts to capture foreign territory through aggression strengthens international security both in individual regions and in the world as a whole, and this can in no way contradict the interests of any nation whether inside or outside Africa. [sentence as heard]

Western Interference in Eritrea

LD151632Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in English to Africa 1430 GMT 15 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Revolutionary Ethiopia has scored important achievements in defending its state and territorial integrity. The victories which were won in the Ogaden, news analysts point out, open up the possibility for restoring and strengthening peace in the Horn of Africa, consolidating the base of the Ethiopian revolution, create more favorable conditions for deepening the social-economic transformations in the country.

It is precisely the program of a profound restructuring of society, socialist orientation proclaimed by the present leadership of Ethiopia that infuriates all the reactionaries and the imperialists backing them. In their plot against Ethiopia they tried to make use of its multinational character in their own interests. The enemies of new Ethiopia, placing their stakes on feudal and bourgeois nationalistic circles, would like to dismember it, to undermine the development of the revolution.

After the failure of the Ogaden operation the imperialist forces link the plans of their interference in Ethiopia's internal affairs to an even greater degree with the activities of separatist elements in the northeastern province of Eritrea. Supporting these elements, the imperialists and Arab reactionaries are striving to weaken Ethiopia, to deprive it of an outlet to the sea. The reactionary Arab regimes, such as in Saudi Arabia, are hoping to establish control over the strategically important Red Sea. All these plans tally most perfectly with the inspirations of the imperialist circles of the West, and first of all with the United States in that part of the world.

In accordance with this, the United States is steadfastly intensifying its military presence off the shores of the Arabian Peninsula in the zone of the Persian Gulf. In such circumstances, the Eritrean separatists find themselves in someone else's (?game), objectively promoting the implementation of imperialist plans. In the meantime, the genuine interest of the population of that province coincide with the interests of all the Ethiopian people, who are striving to build a new life on a new foundation.

The revolutionary leadership of Ethiopia points out that the existing nationalities problem stems from the colonialist past and policy of the former rulers of the country. In a situation when the imperialists and their accomplices, meddling in Ethiopian affairs, are trying to make use of nationalistic and separatist sentiments, the revolutionary forces of Ethiopia view the nationalities question in the context of the class struggle inside the country and on the international arena. They steadfastly come out for unity and state integrity of their homeland.

Peaceful Settlement Advocated

LD151107Y Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 11 Mar 78 p 3 LD

[P. Mezentsev article: "The Only Way"]

[Text] According to reports from Mogadiscio, the Somali Ministry of Information and National Guidance has announced that Somalia is ending military operations in the Ogaden and has decided to withdraw its troops from Ethiopian territory. The troop withdrawal decision was made at a meeting of the leaders of the ruling Somali party.

It can thus be hoped that the military operations in the Horn of Africa, which have lasted more than 7 months, taken thousands of lives and caused great material damage, will end.

Somalia's armed aggression against Ethiopia was in fact engineered by imperialist and reactionary forces. It was unleashed at the time when the anticolonial struggle had intensified in Africa, particularly in southern Africa, which made these forces attempt to weaken the national liberation movement and to split the progressive African countries.

The imperialists' use of the territorial lusts of the Somali leaders was just one of the causes prompting the armed conflict in this region. A far more important factor probably was the successes of the Ethiopian revolution, which had broken the country's archaic feudal order and had proclaimed an independent foreign policy course. It was precisely this that did not suit imperialism and world reaction and led them to the provocations against the revolutionary government of a sovereign African state.

However, from the beginning of its existence, the Ethiopian Government repeatedly declared its desire to develop friendly relations and mutually advantageous cooperation with all countries on the basis of equal rights, noninterference in countries' internal affairs and respect for independence and territorial integrity, in accordance with the UN, and OAU charters. Addis Ababa continues this policy in view of the fact that Ethiopia's borders with Somalia are defined by international political treaties and, particularly by the 1964 OAU resolution which emphasizes that all African countries must respect the borders which existed at the time they attained independence. Thus, no territorial problem exists between Somalia and Ethiopia. Obviously, talks between the two countries can begin only after the complete and final withdrawal of Somali troops from Ethiopian territory.

It is perfectly obvious that if the process of territorial changes occurred frequently in Africa, there would be no end to it, and the entire continent could be turned into an arena of endless territorial wars. This is the legacy which the colonists left to the African people, a fact acknowledged by the OAU. The OAU unites all independent African states and resolutely rejects interference in the internal affairs of other states. The principles of mutual renunciation of force have been defined as the basic approach to resolving the problems which exist between certain African countries.

Everything is clear, it would seem. But far from it. The Western powers, and primarily the United States, have distorted the facts and claimed that Ethiopia was the violator of peace and security in the Horn of Africa. At the start of the conflict the New York TIMES advised Washington to "respond quickly to Somalia's sincere desire to increase the scale of the U.S. presence in that country." This "presence" did not take long to materialize.

Seeking to destabilize the Horn of Africa, the United States began sending heavy arms and ammunition to Somalia through third countries. At the Ogaden front, weapons of French and Italian manufacture were also seen. The FRG granted the Somali Government DM53 million in credit to purchase various weapons.

The West hid its unseemly role behind fabrications of "foreign interference" in the Horn of Africa. Employing the "stop thief" method, they tried to slander the socialist community countries and accuse them of supporting...the victim of aggression.

The Soviet Union has never concealed its continuing policy of advocating peaceful, constructive methods to resolve disputes. It acts in this way based on the principled guidelines of its peace-loving foreign policy. It continues to adhere to this position concerning the conflict in the Horn of Africa also.

The broad international public welcomes the reports from the region of the conflict which state that prospects for a peaceful settlement of the internecine war are improving and that the dark plans of the reactionary forces, which are trying to kindle bloody clashes in the name of their mercenary interests, are unsuccessful. Everything, even the most complex problems, can and must be resolved through negotiations, on the basis of commonsense.

SWAPO OFFICIAL CITES SOVIET TIES WITH THIRD WORLD

LD151040Y Moscow TASS in English 0945 GMT 15 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Lusaka, March 15, TASS--TASS correspondent Vladimir Novikov reports:

The Soviet Union has always been and remains a reliable ally of the oppressed peoples of the world, a TASS correspondent has been told by Sam Nujoma, president of the Southwest Africa People's Organization (SWAPO). He stressed that from its inception the world's first socialist state, headed by great Lenin, has been rendering concrete assistance to the fighting peoples, including in South Africa.

In the struggle against racism, fascism and imperialism, San Nujoma said, SWAPO and the people of Namibia invariably feel assistance and support of all progressive forces of the world. An example for us, are the victories that have been attained by the recently oppressed peoples which now embarked upon the road of independent development--Cuba, Vietnam, Angola, Mozambique, other countries.

The struggle for Namibia's freedom and independence has reached a critical point, Sam Nujoma noted. The racist fascist regime of the Republic of South Africa and its imperialist accomplices undertake different manoeuvres, weave all sorts of intrigues in order to retain the colonial regime in Namibia and to continue oppressing and exploiting its people. The racists are trying to implant in the country a puppet regime, are seeking to divide the people of Namibia and with this aim they are nurturing plans of establishing bantustans, fanning up inter-tribal strife in a bid to draw to their side tribalist elements.

Our stand towards Namibia's future is quite clear, said Sam Nujoma. We are in favour of peace negotiations that can put an end to the bloody war.

But they should not be detrimental to the basic interests of the people. All repressive forces of the Republic of South Africa should be pulled out of Namibia, and a peace keeping force should step in instead. All political prisoners should be released. The illegal annexation by South Africa's authorities of the Walvis Bay port cannot be the subject of negotiations. SWAPO and the people of Namibia regard this port as an inseparable part of the country. Providing observance of these conditions, SWAPO is ready to take part in elections which should be held in an atmosphere of real freedom and democracy. Otherwise, armed struggle shall continue. We are ready for a long struggle. The occupationists will be inevitably defeated and driven away from our land, Sam Nujoma said.

S. AFRICAN OFFICIAL SCORES JOHN HARRIS DEATH SENTENCE

LD151744Y Moscow TASS in English 1653 GMT 15 Mar 78 LD

[Text] London, March 15, TASS--The African National Congress of South Africa vehemently condemns the death sentence imposed in the USA on John Harris, the well known American civil rights activist. In his statement published here, Francis Meli, the ANC spokesman says: At a time when American politicians have so much to say about "human rights" a black American fighter for human rights is sentenced to death.

There is a parallel between the death sentence imposed on John Harris and that imposed by the Vorster regime on Solomon Mahlangu. The two men are black and what is more, they are freedom fighters. The ANC, the statement says, calls upon all antiracists and freedom-lovers to mount a campaign for the release of Harris and Mahlangu.

INDOCHINA

LAO ENVOY TO MOSCOW PRESENTS CREDENTIALS TO KUZNETSOV

LD1519O4Y Moscow TASS in English 1848 GMT 15 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 15, TASS--The ambassador of the People's Republic of Laos, Soth Phetrasi, handed in the Kremlin today his credentials to Vasiliy Kuznetsov, alternate member of the Political [Bureau] of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

I am honoured, the ambassador said, to represent my republic in the Soviet Union, the world's first socialist state, the homeland of the great Lenin. The Laotian people have long been entertaining friendly sentiments toward the heroic people of the Soviet Union and are tied with them by close bonds of cooperation which rests on the principles of proletarian internationalism and mutual respect.

Accepting the credentials, Vasiliy Kuznetsov said that the meetings of Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Laos and prime minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Laos, marked important stages in Soviet-Laotian relations. The successes scored by the Laotian people in building a new life are a matter of profound satisfaction to the people in the Soviet Union V. Kuznetsov said.

Following the presentation of credentials and exchange of speeches, Soth Phetrasi and Vasiliy Kuznetsov had a friendly talk.

VIETNAMESE OUST CAMBODIANS FROM BORDER AREAS

LD141159Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Mar 78 p 5 LD

[Text] Hanoi, 10 March TASS--On 3 and 4 March the armed forces and the population of Tay Ninh Province dealt a decisive rebuff to the Cambodian Armed Forces, which had violated the Vietnamese border, and disabled approximately 100 Cambodian soldiers, according to a VNA report published here.

On 4 March, the Vietnamese Armed Forces ousted Cambodian troops from three districts in this province, annihilating dozens of enemy soldiers.

Along the entire southwest border from 27 February through 4 March, the report points out, the population and Armed Forces of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam disabled approximately 400 Cambodian soldiers who had invaded Vietnam's territory.

REPORT ON ROMANOV, VO VAN KIET SPEECHES AT RALLY

For a Moscow TASS account of rally speeches by Leningrad Obkom delegation leader G.V. Romanov and Ho Chi Minh City VCP Committee Chairman Vo Van Kiet as published in LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA, see pages K 6 through K 9 of the 9 March issue of the Asia & Pacific DAILY REPORT.

BRIEFS

SHIP SPECIALISTS TO VIETNAM--A group of specialists of the Primorskiy ship repair plant headed by Penchuk, deputy chief technologist of the Primorremflot Production Association, has left for Vietnam to train their colleagues in repairing fishing and transport vessels. [Vladivostok Domestic Service in Russian 0935 GMT 9 Mar 78 OW]

JAPANESE CRITICISM OF U.S. DOLLAR 'MACHINATIONS' CITED

LD141015Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Mar 78 p 5 LD

[PRAVDA correspondent I. Latyshev report: "Yet Another 'Record' for the Dollar"]

[Text] Tokyo, 9 March--Japanese businessmen are in a state of panic because of the sharp fall in the value of the dollar. This deterioration has taken place over the past week on currency markets in Japan and West European countries. During the past few days the dollar has fallen in Tokyo from one "record level" to another, reaching 233.7 yen to the dollar today. This is the lowest dollar-yen ratio in Japan since the war.

Sharply criticizing the Carter administration for its selfish financial machinations, YOMIURI writes in an editorial today: "We suspect that the United States is deliberately trying to weaken the international competitiveness of Japan and West Germany."

JAPANESE ACTIVISTS BEGIN MARCH, CONDEMN NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Moscow TASS in English 1425 GMT 15 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Tokyo, March 15, TASS--"The Tragedy of Hiroshima and Nagasaki Must Not be Repeated", "No to Nuclear Weapons": These are the slogans of a march organized by the All-Japan Council of Victims of Atomic Bombing.. The march was started today. The columns of the marchers--thousands of people who lived through the horrors of the U.S. atomic bombing, activists of the Japanese peace movement set out today from Nagasaki and Sapporo on the way to Tokyo where the final manifestations for the liquidation of nuclear danger will be held in mid-April.

Our purpose is further intensification of the struggle of the Japanese people for banning weapons of mass destruction and deepening of the relaxation of international tensions throughout the world, Yoshio Sayto, the deputy general secretary of the All-Japan Council of Victims of Atomic Bombing, told a TASS correspondent. Over 30 thousand participants in the march will hold mass meetings and demonstrations and will take part in collecting signatures under the appeal for ban on nuclear weapons.

By this march we also seek to draw the attention of the progressive public to the plight of those who suffered from the atomic bombing and to demand that the government should adopt a special law on effective aid to them.

The peace march is held at a time when Washington intends to start the production of the new type of mass destruction weapons--the neutron bomb, and when calls are made from the rostrum of Japanese parliament for further build-up of the Self Defence Forces that were created in violation of the Constitution, when measures are taken to arm them with nuclear weapons, Yoshi Sayto said. The Japanese peace fighters resolutely condemn these actions of the Japanese ruling circles. We strongly protest against the sinister plans of the Pentagon and the Japanese military and we demand that the government should end the arms race and fulfill international commitments it had assumed. We declared for the signing of an international agreement envisaging complete ban on all types of nuclear weapon..

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ATOMIC ENERGY OPENS IN TOKYO

LD141436Y Moscow TASS in English 1337 GMT 14 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Tokyo, March 14, TASS--About 800 scientists and specialists from 19 countries attend the annual conference of the Japanese Council for Industrial Uses of Atomic Energy, that opened here today. Japanese and foreign scientists are discussing pressing issues of further development of scientific research in atom's energy, exchanging experience of practical uses of nuclear engineering in peaceful purposes. The conference is attended by a delegation from the Soviet Union.

'MILITARIST SPECTACLE' UNDERSCORES THREAT TO ASIAN PEACE

LD151215Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 Mar 78 p 3 LD

[From the international military-political review by Maj Yu. Gavrilov: "Provocative Maneuvers"]

[Text] The news agency reports arriving from Seoul resemble military dispatches. American-South Korean military maneuvers, code named Team Spirit-78, have been continuing for almost a week throughout South Korea and in coastal waters. South Koreans and foreign correspondents in Seoul, who have become "accustomed" in recent years to the various military demonstrations by the Pentagon and the Pak Chong-hui regime, have never before witnessed such a grand militarist spectacle.

The Japanese press calls Team Spirit-78 "the biggest maneuvers in Asia since the war in Indochina." Approximately 100,000 soldiers and officers are participating in the maneuvers from various ground, naval, air force, and marine units. Many American units and subunits were transferred to South Korea from military bases in the United States, Guam, the Philippines, Japan, and particularly from Okinawa. A large amount of combat equipment has been moved into the exercise area including B-52 strategic bombers, F-111 and F-4 Phantom fighter-bombers and various kinds of missiles. The sinister silhouettes of U.S. 7th Fleet ships are visible off the South Korean coast, including the aircraft carrier Midway, which left its base at the Japanese port of Yokosuka. According to U.S. Secretary of the Navy G. Claytor, it is carrying aircraft equipped with nuclear bombs. The aircraft carrier Kitty Hawk, the helicopter-carrying amphibious assault ship Tripoli, the cruiser Oklahoma City and nuclear submarines have been sent to the South Korean Peninsula.

Just what is the aim of these unprecedented maneuvers? The Japanese press notes that the objective is to perfect joint ground, naval and air force operations in the event of an "emergency" situation. According to reports from Seoul, the 11-day maneuvers will simulate "the outbreak of a second Korean war."

The Team Spirit-78 maneuvers and the accompanying buildup in the American military presence in South Korea shed further light on the dangerous nature of the Pentagon's strategy in this part of Asia. American propaganda has been prolific recently in its attempts to show that U.S. policy concerning the Korean Peninsula is aimed at safeguarding peace and security. But the facts indicate otherwise.

First, the Washington administration's promises to withdraw American forces from South Korea have turned out to be a mere maneuver, a kind of regrouping of U.S. Armed Forces in this area. While last year the Americans announced their intention to withdraw all their ground forces, now the talk concerns the possible withdrawal of just one brigade, and that on a purely hypothetical plane. Meanwhile, the Pentagon is accelerating its program to increase its air and naval forces in South Korea.

Second, the United States is continuing the intensive militarization of Pak Chong-hui's dictatorship by granting it ever-increasing financial and military aid. In the near future an additional $1.8 billion is planned for this purpose. This increase is scheduled despite the fact that the Seoul authorities are using American aid and their own armed forces for purposes of exacerbating tension on the Korean Peninsula, prolonging the division of Korea and most cruelly suppressing antimilitarist actions in the southern part of the country.

Third, the Pentagon is steering a course toward keeping South Korea as a military bridgehead and a firing range for maneuvers and exercises conducted with the Seoul puppets. The militarist hysteria whipped up in South Korea is masked by false assertions about the "threat from the north", and provocations are passed off as "retaliatory measures." But objective observers, even in the United States, do not believe this. For example, Harvard University Professor J. Cohen, the famous American specialist on political problems in Asia, once said: "it is impossible to rationalize" the desire to justify Seoul's policy by citing the "threat from the north." In his view it is the Seoul authorities' "repressive policy" which poses the real threat to peace on the Korean Peninsula.

However, the Pentagon has no wish to listen to reasonable arguments. In February, the head of the U.S. military department announced his intention to a house committee to considerably expand the scale and frequency of U.S. military exercises in South Korea. The current Team Spirit-78 maneuvers are a graphic demonstration of this dangerous course.

Commenting on the Pentagon's simulation of the "outbreak of war," observers point out that it is nothing but an extensive military provocation against the DPRK whose course toward the unification of the country on a peaceful democratic basis without outside interference has earned it appropriate respect from the entire world. The Japanese public, in particular, recognizes the nature of the Team Spirit-78 maneuvers. An interesting report in the paper ASAHI stated that for the first time the area covered by the maneuvers extends north of Seoul. In other words, near the demilitarized zone. The paper notes that certain circles would not mind testing....the DPRK's response to such actions.

The reaction of People's Korea is well known. The DPRK Government and the Korean people, a DPRK Foreign Ministry statement notes, believe that the military ballyhoo provoked by the United States and the South Korean puppet clique is a serious encroachment on peace and security in Korea and Asia and a challenge to the peace-loving peoples of the world. The United States, the statement points out, is breaking its promise to withdraw American forces from South Korea and is opposing peace and the peaceful unification of Korea. A Foreign Ministry spokesman also said that the Japanese ruling circles, who allow their territory to be used by the American military, must cease all actions that contradict the interests of Korea and Japan and the interests of world peace.

The DPRK press resolutely condemns the provocative American-South Korean maneuvers and notes that the growing U.S. military activity in the Pacific is a serious threat not only to peace on the Korean Peninsula but throughout Asia. The United States, the Pyongyang paper NODONG SINMUN stresses, should immediately stop recklessly playing with fire. This demand is wholly supported by the international public.

ROSTROPOVICH, VISHNEVSKAYA STRIPPED OF SOVIET CITIZENSHIP

LD160635Y Moscow TASS in English 0624 GMT 16 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 16, TASS--Distorted stories about the deprival of Mstislav Rostropovich and Galina Vishnevskaya of USSR citizenship have appeared in some organs of Western mass media. The true facts are as follows:

Having left on a foreign tour several years ago, Rostropovich and Vishnevskaya did not display any desire to return to the Soviet Union. More than that, they have conducted and continue to conduct anti-social, anti-patriotic activities defaming the Soviet social system and the name of citizen of the USSR. They have systematically given material assistance to subversive anti-Soviet centres and other organizations abroad that are hostile to the Soviet Union. For example, in 1976 and 1977 they donated the gate receipts of several concerts to white emigre organizations.

While officially remaining citizens of the Soviet Union Rostropovich and Vishnevskaya became in fact ideological renegades engaged in activities directed against the Soviet Union and the Soviet people. These actions of theirs smear the name of citizen of the USSR.

On the basis of Article 7 of the USSR Law of August 19, 1938 "on Citizenship of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics" the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet stripped Mtislav Rostropovich and Galina Vishnevskaya of USSR citizenship. This decision was made because Rostropovich and Vishnevskaya systematically perpetrate actions that are damaging to the prestige of the USSR and are incompatible with Soviet citizenship.

ONLY WELL-QUALIFIED PERSONNEL SHOULD BE ADMITTED TO CPSU

LD151619Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Mar 78 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "Concern for Party Recruitment"]

[Text] Guided by the Leninist precept of protecting our party's purity and raising the rank and significance of being a party member still higher, the CPSU is constantly concerned about improving the qualitative makeup of those entering its ranks. The party's ideological cohesion, combat capability and fulfillment of all tasks facing it depend on its qualitative makeup.

In the last 30 years, the numerical strength of the CPSU has increased almost three times. It is absolutely obvious, it was noted at the 25th party congress, that the growth in its ranks will continue. This is an objective tendency arising from the entire course of social development under socialism and the rise in the party's leading role and its prestige. As we advance further and as the party resolves more major tasks, greater concern must be shown for replenishing its ranks with fresh forces from among those who have earned the recognition of the primary party organization and the entire collective and have shown themselves to be active in production and public life. However, the CPSU does not carry out its numerical growth at a forced rate; it admits into its ranks only the best of the best.

"With this aim," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev has indicated, "it is necessary to increase the significance of the candidate stage. [paragraph continues]

A comprehensive check of the political and work qualities of the candidate member of the party as well as his Marxist-Leninist education must be done with the greatest strictness. We must not forget that every communist must be an active party fighter with high ideology and a frontrunner in the ranks of the builders of communism."

The 25th CPSU Congress decisions and Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's instructions on the further ideological and organizational strengthening of party ranks were embodied concretely in the party's Central Committee resolution "On the Work of Kirgiz Party Organizations on Party Admission and Educating Candidate Members of the CPSU." This stresses the special responsibility of primary party organizations for admitting people to the party. Guided by these instructions, Army and Navy primary party organizations are firmly and consistently implementing a line on becoming more exact toward those entering the CPSU, on studying their work, moral and political qualities more thoroughly and on improving work in educating young communists. The responsibility to make objective recommendations is also being increased.

Thus, for instance, in the four times decorated tank regiment of the Southern Group of Forces, where Maj A. Yankovskiy is deputy commander for the political unit, the political work and moral qualities of those wishing to join the CPSU are attentively studied even before their statements are examined at a bureau session and meeting. This makes it possible to avoid errors in evaluating the merits and shortcomings of the person. Great significance is attached here to the process of acceptance into the party and the all-round analysis of the political and work qualities of the entrant. Acceptance into the party, as the CPSU Central Committee demands, takes place most often at open party meetings. Those accepted into the party are for the most part servicemen with leading specialities who fulfill the most crucial tasks in insuring combat readiness.

Army and Navy political organizers and party organizations have intensified their controlling influence on the makeup of those accepted into the CPSU. The most worthy of the servicemen with leading specialities are selected for the party. Nearly 80 percent of the communists who joined the party last year serve in combat units and on ships. Such an approach to the growth of the party's ranks insures a stronger party influence on the decisive sectors of improving combat readiness.

In Army and Navy party organizations, purposeful ideological and educational work with young communists is being carried out in forming a Marxist-Leninist view of the world, communist convictions and an active vital position in them. They are embraced by various forms of political study. In many party organizations it has become normal for young communists to attend meetings and sessions of the party bureau and party committee on the independent broadening of their own ideological and theoretical horizon and on fulfillment of the duties defined by the CPSU Charter. All this furthers the growth of young communists' political awareness and helps to insure their personal excellence in combat and political training and in fulfilling competition pledges.

As experience shows, young communists are formed more successfully where they are involved in active public life and regularly carry out instructions that are given with consideration for their knowledge, experience and interests. Fulfilling instructions, especially those connected with work in Komsomol organizations, helps to cultivate a party approach to matters and helps them to master the art of political and moral influence on people. The assistance given by older comrades to young communists in mastering the Leninist ideological heritage and the practices of agitation and propaganda work make it possible to reval their capabilities more fully.

At the same time it must be noted that in some places there is not a sufficiently serious approach to CPSU selection; undue haste is often shown in accepting people for the party; statements on acceptance into the CPSU are seldom examined at open party meetings. The necessary concern for educating the young party generation, for raising the role and responsibility of those making recommendations in this connection, and for making the candidate stage a really serious trial and not a mere formality, is not always shown. There are cases when unjustified indulgence is shown to young communists who commit faults; this has nothing in common with comradely attention and concern.

We must not become reconciled to this type of situation. Concern for the purity of party ranks and their qualitative replenishment is the most important task of primary party organizations, party commissions and political organizers. Constant, painstaking work with young communists and a concern for their political growth and ideological tempering combined with a highly exacting attitude toward them is a necessary condition for strengthening the party's influence on all personnel. When questions of the growth of party ranks are examined, it is very important for party meetings to take place in an atmosphere of high exactingness. It is also important that the examination of acceptance statements be a school for the entire collective and leave lasting traces in the life of the CPSU entrant. Questions of the ideological tempering of young communists and their involvement in active public work must be constantly at the center of attention of party collectives.

KAZAKH, LATVIAN, KIRGIZ DRAFT CONSTITUTIONS APPROVED

LD151635Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 15 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Sessions of the commissions preparing the draft constitution of the Kazakh Latvian and Kirgiz union republics have taken place. They were held under the chairmanships of Kunayev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Kazakh CP Central Committee; Voss, first secretary of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee; and Usubaliyev, first secretary of the Kirgiz Communist Party Central Committee. The commissions examined and basically approved the drafts. They also passed decisions to go to the presidiums of the supreme soviets of their republics with the proposal to publish the draft constitutions for nationwide discussion.

NEW DRAFT CONSTITUTION OF RSFSR PUBLISHED 15 MAR

LD150516Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2230 GMT 14 Mar 78 LD

[Excerpts] Moscow, 15 March--The draft new constitution of the RSFSR, the biggest Soviet republic, was published today. All 15 union republics will bring their constitutions into accord with the basic law of the USSR. They will, however, also reflect the national peculiarities of each republic. The rights of the union republics are insured by real constitutional guarantees. Each republic has a territory which cannot be changed without its consent. They have the right to enter upon relations with foreign states, conclude treaties with them and take part in the activities of international organizations. The Russian Federation, as the draft constitution points out, is a socialist state of all the people, all power in which belongs to the people. The Russian Federation, like the other republics, maintains the right of free secession from the USSR. However, all the republics are implementing one and the same aim--the construction of communism--and each of them is interested in the development and strengthening of the entire union. The unification of the federation with the other Soviet republics into a single federal state, the USSR, "has multiplied the forces and opportunities of the country's people to implement radical socioeconomic transformations in the construction of communism and defense of its gains," the draft constitution notes.

ALL-UNION HEADQUARTERS VIEWS FARM MACHINERY REPAIRS

LD151535Y Moscow SELSKAYA ZHZIN in Russian 11 Mar 78 p 2 LD

[Text] The participants in the latest meeting of the all-union agricultural material and technical supply operations headquarters focused attention on the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution "On Additional Measures To Prepare and Carry Out Spring Fieldwork in 1978." Opening the session, A.A. Yezhevskiy, chairman of the Soyuzselkhoztekhnika all-union association, stressed that the repair and preparation of the kolkhoz and sovkhoz machinery and tractor pool are currently proceeding at preferred rates. It was noted at the session that around 90 percent of the tractors and 95 percent of plows, drills and cultivators are ready.

The motor vehicle and tractor-trailer repair situation is worse. There was concern at the report on the preparation of the high-power K-700 and K-701 tractors for fieldwork. Many farms are not meeting the repair plan. This applies especially to repair workers in Tambovskaya, Orenburgskaya and Novosibirskaya oblasts.

The increase in the rate and the speediest completion of agricultural machinery repairs, the headquarters session stressed, largely depend on the prompt delivery of spare parts to farms. At the same time, some industrial enterprises are failing to meet schedules and are behind with shipments of very important consignments. This applies, particularly, to the Odessapochvomash production association, the Baku Avtozapchast plant and the Zavolzhskiy motor plant. There were also complaints against the Ministry of Railways, which has not efficiently organized the supply of cars for the shipment of agricultural equipment.

The session participants examined other questions connected with material and technical supplies for kolkhozes and sovkhozes. A resolution was adopted concerning measures to eliminate the shortcomings and to insure the unconditional fulfillment of all agricultural orders. Executive workers from the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Gossnab participated in the headquarters' work.

RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS FOR 14 MAR

LD150442 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0001 GMT on 14 March reports that 2,000 kolkhozes and sovkhozes of Kazakhstan are ready for spring fieldwork. Spring crops will be sown on 30 million hectares this spring in the republic. The presowing watering of cotton plantations has begun in the Vakhsh valley of Tadjikistan. Aviators of the Kasnodarskiy Kray are top dressing wheat and barley. Spring crop sowing is in progress in Uzbekistan. The same broadcast reports that a large batch of high quality grain seeds grown in the Primorskiy Kray have been dispatched to the various Far Eastern oblasts. The Primorskiy Kray has become the center of grain seed cultivation in the Far East. Thirty specialized farms which sow oats, vegetables and fodder grasses are operating. This year, seeds from the Primorskiy Kray will be going to the Tomskaya Oblast, Kazakhstan and the Stavropolskiy Kray. At 0500 GMT the radio informs its listeners that sowing has begun in Moldavia on many farms and that in Belorussia preparations for sowing are nearing completion. At 0700 GMT the radio reports that sowing is underway in the Chimkentskaya and Alma-Atinskaya oblasts. Farmers in Chimkentskaya Oblast have begun selective sowing of perennial grasses and setting early vegetables. In the Alma-Atinskaya Oblast, farmers are sowing barley. Nearly 300,000 hectares have been set aside in the oblast for early grain crops. At 0930 GMT the radio informs its readers that field work has begun in Moldavia. The sowing of barley, oats and other spring crops is underway. At 1130 GMT the radio reports that despite changeable weather, the sowing of early grain and fodder crops has been completed in the North Caucasus.

COSMONAUTS RETURN TO EARTH AFTER 96-DAY SPACE FLIGHT

LD161246Y Moscow TASS in English 1237 GMT 16 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 16, TASS--The longest manned flight in the history of cosmonautics, which lasted 96 days, has been successfuly concluded.

At 14 hours 19 minutes, Moscow time, on March 16th, 1978, Cosmonauts Yuriy Romanenko and Georgiy Grechko returned to earth after fulfilling the planned programme of scientific-technical researches and experiments on board the Salyut-6 orbital scientific station. The descent vehicle of the spacecraft Soyuz-27 landed in a pre-set district of Soviet territory, 265 kilometers west of the . of Tselinograd.

The preliminary medical checkup of the cosmonauts, conducted on the landing spot immediately after the touchdown of the descent vehicle, showed that the cosmonauts stood up well to the prolonged orbital flight.

The undocking of the Soyuz-27 craft and the Salyut-6 station took place at 11 hours 00 minutes on March 16th. After the slowdown of the ship, its modules were separated and descent vehicle passed on the descent trajectory. The parachute system was put into operation at the calculated altitude, the softlanding engines were switched on near the earth and the descent vehicle landed smoothly.

Before returning to earth, the cosmonauts had mothballed the systems on board Salyut-6 station. The orbital station continues its further flight automatically.

Yuriy Romanenko and Georgiy Grechko started their orbital flight on December 10, 1977, on board the Soyuz-26. After the docking of the spaceship with the orbital station Salyut-6, the crew started fulfilling the program of work on board the research complex.

On December 20, the crew made a space walk, in the course of which were checked methods and designs ensuring the external inspection and preventive measures outside the station.

On January 11, 1978, the spaceship Soyuz-27, which brought on board the station Cosmonauts Vladim Dzhanibekov and Oleg Makarov, was linked up with the orbital complex. For the first time a crew of four cosmonauts worked for five days in a space including an orbital station and two manned spaceships.

On January 22, a new important stage in the flight of the manned complex started. Fuel for tne engine installations, equipment, apparatuses and materials for the crew's life support and carrying out research were delivered to the orbital station by means of automatic transport space ship Progress-1 for the first time in the practices of space flight.

An international crew of Cosmonaut of the USSR Aleksey Gubarev and Czechoslovak Cosmonaut Vladimir Remek was delivered on board the Soyuz-28 to the orbital complex on March 3. In the course of the seven day flight of the international crew of the orbital complex Salyut-6-Soyuz-27-Soyuz-28, a number of joint Soviet-Czechoslovak experiments and studies were carried out.

The flight and work of the international crew on board the research orbital complex has been a qualitatively new stage in the development of Soviet cosmonautics and broadening cooperation of the socialist countries in the field [of space] exploration and uses of outer space for peaceful purposes under the Intercosmos program.

A wide range of important scientific and technical studies and experiments have been carried out during the long manned flight of the Salyut-6 station. A considerable part of the flight program was devoted to the study of natural resources and the environment. The cosmonauts repeatedly photographed the territory of the Soviet Union in medium and southern latitudes. New data have been obtained on the nature of occurrence of various physical processes in the near-earth space.

The conduct of technological experiments with a view to obtaining new materials in weightless conditions was an important part of the flight program. Under the technical testing program the cosmonauts successfully tested a number of new systems and instruments which will find application in future orbital stations and spaceships.

A large amount of medicobiological research and experiments has been performed to study human organism's reaction to the action of long orbital flight factors. Regular medical examinations of the cosmonauts were carried out throughout the flight.

To maintain a high working capacity during the flight and to ensure the favourable process of readaptation after landing, the crew constantly had full-scale training sessions with the use of the specially-developed means.

In the course of the entire flight, the on-board systems and instrumentation of the Salyut-6 station and the spaceships functioned normally. The successful accomplishment of the flight program reaffirmed the high operational qualities and reliability of the space complex, which made it possible to effect four dockings of the transport spacecraft with the Salyut-6 orbital station and showed the effectiveness of the procedure developed in the Soviet Union for selection and training of cosmonauts of various countries for joint space flights.

The flight of the Salyut-6 station, the spacecraft Soyuz-26, Soyuz-27 and Soyuz-28, and the automatic transport ship Progress-1, and also the carrying out of the researches and experiments were dependably ensured by the precise and harmonious work of the cosmonauts, collectives of specialists of the cosmodrome, the Flight Control Center, the command and measuring and the search and rescue complexes.

The results of the scientific-technical and medical-biological researches and experiments, conducted on board the Salyut-6-Soyuz-27-Soyuz-28 orbital complex, including those conducted at the time of the work of the two visiting expeditions, will be applied in various fields of science, technology and the national economy of the countries of the socialist community.

COSMOS-994 LAUNCHED; APPARATUS FUNCTIONING SMOOTHLY

LD160710Y Moscow TASS in English 0701 GMT 16 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 16, TASS--Another artificial earth satellite Cosmos-994 was launched in the USSR on Wednesday. It carries scientific apparatus to continue the exploration of outer space.

The sputnik was placed on orbit with the parameters: initial revolution period--105 minutes; maximum distance from the earth's surface--1,023 kilometres; minimum distance--996 kilometres; orbit angle--82.9 degrees.

The apparatus functions smoothly.

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